

BEIRUT

TWO EVENING FLIGHTS
AS OF 18TH MAY 1994
IN ADDITION TO THE
FOUR EXISTING MORNING FLIGHTS
WITH ADEQUATE SPACE CARGO

ROYAL JORDANIAN
YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

Volume 18 Number 5606

AMMAN SUNDAY, MAY 8, 1994, THU AL Q'EDH 27, 1414

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Yemen president demands surrender of southerners

Continued fighting reported; Arab League
decides against sending peacekeeping force

SANAA (Agencies) — Yemen's president demanded on Saturday the immediate surrender of rival southern leaders and rejected negotiations and foreign mediation to end the civil war threatening to dismember the country.

Fresh land and air battles hit rural areas of Yemen for a fourth day and hundreds of terrified foreigners being evacuated by the French navy from Aden came under fire.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh called on the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) of his rival Ali Salem Al Beidh to surrender immediately "to preserve what is left of the armed forces," Sanaa Radio reported.

A senior U.S. official who tried in vain to mediate between the former north and south said neither side could win militarily and the outlook was "not good" for the two regions, which merged in uneasy union four years ago.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau told reporters in Oman after arriving from Yemen that the north

seemed to have the advantage in the fighting but the southerners were determined to battle on.

He said there was a risk that both sides would seek additional arms, giving governments that wished to make trouble in the area an opportunity to create instability.

Sanaa Radio monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation reported Mr. Saleh as saying division of the country into two states once again was unthinkable.

Mr. Saleh told parliament that the Yemeni people were prepared to make more sacrifices for unity, and reiterated that the conflict was an internal affair.

"What is taking place in Yemen is an internal affair and an issue that concerns the Yemenis," he said. "Separation is impossible. We will not move an inch from unity."

In Cairo, the Arab League decided not to intervene in the Yemeni war after the northern-led government turned down an Egyptian proposal to send Arab peacekeepers to halt the con-

flict. But permanent delegates at the Cairo-based organisation called on its secretary general, Esmat Abdul Meguid, to pursue efforts to end the conflict. A diplomatic source said the league decided to abstain on the Egyptian proposal after it had been turned down by the north.

Senior southern leader Abdul Aziz Al Dalai had said earlier the south could favour Egyptian proposals to send a peacekeeping force.

He said the YSP "supported all measures by the Arab League," after meeting with Mr. Abdul Meguid.

If the "situation is necessary and if it is imperative in order to stop the fighting" then the YSP was in favour of sending a peacekeeping force "even if northern leaders reject it."

Foreign Minister Mohamad Saleh Bassandwa earlier opposed the emergency meeting in Cairo, insisting the three days of intense fighting in Yemen were an "internal affair."

Dr. Abdul Meguid told journalists after the meeting be-

hind closed doors that the Arab countries had charged him with "continuing efforts to stop the fighting immediately."

Gulf Arab states and the European Union (EU) will discuss the Yemeni conflict when they meet in Saudi Arabia on Sunday for their annual economic and political talks, a European official said.

He said EU and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) preparatory committees met in Riyadh on Saturday to finalise the agenda.

"If (Yemen) will certainly be discussed, it is something we have been discussing at official levels and the ministers would certainly like to talk it over and arrive at some decision," said the official.

The GCC's Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar issued a joint statement from Riyadh on Saturday urging an end to the fighting.

Yemen has been paralysed since August by disputes between Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh, who ruled Marxist South Yemen before the mer-

(Continued on page 5)



KING MEETS RAMALLAH DELEGATION: His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court on Saturday a team representing Ramallah residents in the United States led by Dr. Adib Al Khatib (photo above). The team came to offer condolences to the King on the passing of Queen Zain Al Sharaf, Queen Mother (Petra photo)

lah residents in the United States led by Dr. Adib Al Khatib (photo above). The team came to offer condolences to the King on the passing of Queen Zain Al Sharaf, Queen Mother (Petra photo)

Seminar on Jerusalem focuses on need for Arab coordination

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Senior Jordanian and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials Saturday called for more coordination between Jordan and the PLO and underlined the need for Arab solidarity to consolidate the Arab position in the Middle East peace process.

Addressing a seminar entitled "Jerusalem — the Key to Genuine Peace in the Middle East," Deputy Prime Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar warned that unless there was enhanced Arab coordination "it will be dangerous not only for our Palestinian brothers but also for Jordanians."

Bassam Abu Sharif, an aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said: "Palestinians and Jordanians are one family, they are fighting one struggle and are facing together one challenge — that is Jerusalem. We have to act as quickly as possible to achieve Arab solidarity."

"If the Gulf states had put on their weights behind the negotiating teams, the results (of the agreements signed between Palestinians and Israelis) would have been different," Mr. Abu Sharif added. "If we threw more weight and if there were coordination, we would have succeeded in putting the Jerusalem issue in the first stage of negotiations instead of the fin-

al status negotiations."

Dr. Abu Nowar and Mr. Abu Sharif expressed hope that the ongoing process would be successful in restoring peace to the Middle East and bringing peace and prosperity to the region's people.

One of the key questions raised by the audience after Dr. Abu Nowar delivered a speech on behalf of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali was about the sovereignty over Jerusalem.

In the speech, Dr. Majali said Arab sovereignty should be restored in Arab Jerusalem "so that the whole region would eventually become a symbol of peace for all the faithful children of Abraham."

He referred to His Majesty King Hussein's words: "The rights I have in mind are the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, including the restoration of peace to Al Aqsa Mosque, so that no worshipper there would ever be terrorised by a murderer; so that Salaheddin's pulpit would never be set ablaze by a bigot; so that children would never be sprayed at point blank with gunfire by a usurper."

"Under Al Udhah Al Umar-iyah (Caliph Umar's Covenant), Jerusalem became an eternal trust to the Hashemites," Dr. Majali said. "It is in this context that Jordan is committed to ensure that all holy places in Jerusalem will be subject to divine sovereignty only, for

Jerusalem represents our collective memory and common faith."

In the question and answer session, both Dr. Abu Nowar and Mr. Abu Sharif said Jordan and the PLO were seeking to bring Jerusalem under Arab sovereignty.

"There is no misunderstanding between us and the Palestinians on that (sovereignty over Jerusalem)," said Dr. Abu Nowar. "Arab sovereignty should be restored to Arab Jerusalem... I hope it will be the sovereignty of the Palestinian state; it is a Palestinian city."

Mr. Abu Sharif said: "The Palestine Liberation Organisation is fighting for Arab sovereignty on East Jerusalem. The issue is not simply Jerusalem but it is the full will of Palestinians and Jordanians to seek unity and to struggle for the liberation of Jerusalem."

Mr. Abu Sharif and Dr. Abu Nowar were answering a pointed question that Israel was exploiting the lack of coordination between Jordan and the PLO to consolidate its grip on the Holy City.

"Coordination should be deep enough so as not to allow Israelis to exploit the situation," said Mr. Abu Sharif.

The French ambassador in Amman, Bernard Bajolet, expressed his country's concern over settlements and settlers in and around East Jerusalem.

Discussions under way in New York on Aqaba verification

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian, American, U.N. and Lloyds Register representatives are holding talks in New York on the modalities of a proposed land-based regime at Aqaba to verify adherence to the international sanctions against Iraq, official and other sources said Saturday.

Although Washington has accepted the Jordanian proposal that Lloyds Register take charge of the verifications, several key issues remain to be agreed upon before the arrangement could go into place at Aqaba, according to the sources.

"For some reason or the other, the Americans are taking their own time even on issues that need very little clarification," said one source. "At this rate, it could be several weeks if not months before a final agreement is reached."

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced the American acceptance of the proposal, subject to "fine-tuning," after a meeting with His Majesty King Hussein in London on April 25.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said last week that the U.S.-led naval force patrolling the Red Sea had not intercepted and delayed any Aqaba-bound vessel after the King's meeting with Mr. Christopher.

But, Dr. Majali said, this did not mean that the interceptions had stopped. He added that no progress had been made in having the onshore verifications regime in place at Aqaba.

France announced last week that it was withdrawing from the so-called multinational interception force (MIF) in line with the Jordanian effort to end the damaging sea-based inspections of Aqaba-bound vessels.

According to the source, the issues on the table in the ongoing discussions in New York involve the mechanism for Lloyds Register's presence at Aqaba, modalities of ensuring adherence to the U.N. resolutions that imposed the international sanctions against

(Continued on page 5)

Waldheim arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Austria's ex-president, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, and his wife arrived here Saturday on a several day visit upon an invitation from their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor. Dr. Waldheim will meet the King and discuss with him Middle East affairs, international developments, bilateral relations and progress in the peace process.

Iran wants troops in Bosnia

SARAJEVO (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said on Saturday his country would insist on being allowed to send 10,000 troops to join the United Nations peacekeeping force in Bosnia.

Speaking after talks in Sarajevo with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, Mr. Velayati said: "We are insisting on our request to send troops here." He added: "We have announced that we are ready to send 10,000 troops as peacekeeping forces, under the flag of the United Nations. We have not received any logical and acceptable response from the United Nations." The United Nations is short of troops to fulfil its peacekeeping and humanitarian role in Bosnia, but is reluctant to go along with Iran's longstanding offer because it fears any Iranian contingent may be too partisan.

Croats, Muslims reopen federation talks

VIENNA (AFP) — Bosnian Croats and Muslims began new talks Saturday at the U.S. embassy in Vienna on creating a Croatian-Muslim federation in Bosnia with Croatian Foreign Minister Matic Granic casting a positive outcome. Mr. Granic said he was "optimistic" negotiators would reach a decision on the name of the future president of such a federation as well as defining its territorial scope. Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said the negotiations, which observers expected to last for several days, would deal with the maps of the future federation along with "problems of personnel and government."

PLO rejects Arafat's bid to be sole arbiter of self-rule

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) rejected a bid by Chairman Yasser Arafat that he, alone, name members to the Palestinian authority that will assume limited powers in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho once Israel withdraws, sources said Saturday.

Mr. Arafat appealed to the organisation's Executive Committee on Friday to authorise him to form the 25-member council, said the sources, quoted by the Associated Press.

But the PLO officials refused to waive a Palestine Central Council (PNC) resolution that stipulates the autonomy "administrations be named by the decision-making Executive Committee and not by Mr. Arafat himself, said the sources.

Meanwhile, Jibril Al Rajoub, an Arafat security aide, said he had been named chief security official for Jericho. Mohammad Dahlan, a Gaza

native and a trusted aide, was named as chief security official in the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Rajoub, a West Bank native expelled by Israel in 1988, said he would travel to Jericho on Friday to assume his responsibilities ahead of an official transfer of power to the Palestinians.

One of his jobs will be dealing with the cases of thousands of Palestinians accused of having collaborated with the Israelis during their 27-year occupation. Mr. Rajoub said the PLO agreed not to prosecute the alleged collaborators, but has refused to provide an amnesty.

Under an accord signed in Cairo on Wednesday, the PLO and Israel committed themselves to Palestinian self-rule and an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

A PLO official said the organisation would name its team to take charge in Gaza and Jericho within 48 hours, almost coinciding with the entry of its police units.

(Continued on page 5)

Multiracial government begins in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Legislators in South Africa's most populous province took oaths of office in six languages Saturday as blacks and whites sat down together to govern.

In a wood-paneled hall decorated with bronze sculptures of former apartheid rulers, joyous ululating by black women combined with rhythmic clapping from African National Congress (ANC) legislators to force the politely applauding white delegation to their feet.

The applause was for Tokyo Sexwale, elected black premier of the province that includes South Africa's industrial, financial and mining heartland and its biggest municipalities, Johannesburg and Soweto.

Eight of the country's newly elected provincial legislatures had their first sittings and chose premiers Saturday, a day after results from the country's first multiracial election showed the ANC had scored more than 62 per cent of the national vote.

In Cape Town, former Law

and Order Minister Hernus Kriel became premier of the Western Cape province, while the National Party won, while ANC stalwarts such as Mr. Sexwale, Patrick Lekota and Popo Molefe were chosen premiers in the six provinces the ANC won.

The provincial legislature of KwaZulu-Natal, won by the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party, will meet for the first time next week.

In a ceremony on the windy hill where the Johannesburg civic centre sits, Mr. Sexwale took the premier's oath, telling his audience: "We stand on the threshold of time, as makers of history, to realise the dreams, the aspirations of all South Africans."

The change was stark as Mr. Sexwale, a former guerrilla and political prisoner, stood on a podium to take the salute of a South African police band, a series of defence force personnel carriers and a flyby from a yellow police helicopter. The crowd of black ANC supporters who at one time would have cursed at or fled the

helicopter cheered instead. Soldiers and police surrounded Mr. Sexwale, whose life had been threatened in an anonymous telephone call the night before.

In an emotional oration dedicated to his friend Chris Hani, the former head of the ANC guerrilla organisation who was assassinated April 10, 1993, Mr. Sexwale called on listeners to honour the dead with peace.

Mr. Sexwale praised as patriots members of the South African police and defence force "whom we once faced in battles on the borders and across the country."

"I have never in the past said one good thing about (outgoing) President F. W. de Klerk," said Mr. Sexwale, known as an ANC hardliner. "I am going to say something today. He is a patriot."

Meanwhile, Nelson Mandela, on the weekend before he is officially elected president, took his message of unity for a society torn apart by more than

(Continued on page 5)

Bani Hamida presents

"Artists Expressions in Wool"

Weaving & Art Works by

Ammar khammash
dody tabaa
folad mimi
hazem zu'bi
dzhelva khatib
khalid khreis
maha abu ayyash
mona saoudi
nawal abdallah
noelle shawa
nuha mansour
reham al-ghasib
salam kanan
samer tabaa
samia halabi
samia zaru
suha shoman

JORDAN RIVER designs

invites you to our

ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION

A collection of unique handcrafted home furnishings, fashion accessories and traditional products
Introducing the new cotton line

Special Items

- Quilts
- Cushions
- Wallhangings
- Picture frames
- Lamp shades
- Leather handbags
- Canvas tote bags
- Arabic cuisine
- Natural olive oil soap
- Collector's dolls
- Embroidered fashionwear

Sponsored by
Jubran Makdah & Co.
Pioneers in Floor Heating System

Location
Villa Courtesy of
Drs Ghalib Zawaideh & Nora Bisharat Zawaideh

Tel. 656172

from Sunday, May 8 thru Sunday, May 15 (10am - 9pm)

Save The Children Projects

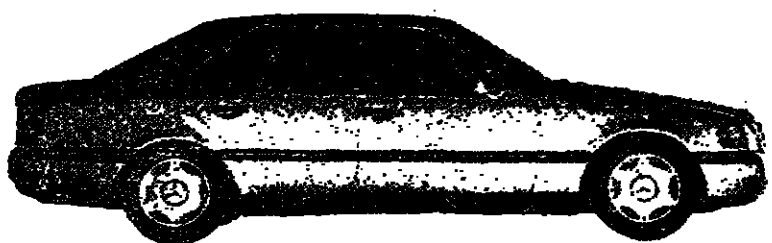
ABDUL HAMID SHARAF SCHOOL

Bani Hamida
Contractor's Association

Zawaideh Villa

الجمعية الأردنية للعلوم الطبية للفلسطينيين

يانصيب



بأق ٣ أيام على السحب

بالتعاون مع
مجموعة شركات التأمين والإستثمار

للاستفسار هاتف ٦١١٠٦٥

أماكن بيع التذاكر

- | | |
|---|--|
| ٢٨) الجمعية - لم أتيه | ١) سفيوي |
| ٢٩) فيديو رؤوف - الدوار السانح | ٢) سوق الرويتو - الدوار الأول |
| ٣٠) ميوزك بوكس - الدوار السانح | ٣) سويت سوبر ماركت - الدوار الخامس |
| ٣١) محسن الخراس - ضاحية الرابية | ٤) ميني ماركت لسانه لمر ليدن - تلح العلي |
| ٣٢) شركة فورم للالات - مقابل فندق فيلادلفيا | ٥) صيدلية الفولي - الدوار السادس |
| ٣٣) شركة الربيع للمطبخ الإلكتروني | ٦) صيدلية رويحي - جبل عمان |
| شارع وادي صفره - مجمع الحنانيه للجاري | ٧) صيدلية رولان - وادي صفره |
| شركة الربيع للمطبخ الإلكتروني - لسانه | ٨) صيدلية فرانس - جبل الحسين |
| الهاشمية | ٩) صيدلية نوار الخليلية - جبل الحسين |
| ١٠) صيدلية مخيم الحسين - جبل الحسين | ١١) صيدلية ملاك - الوحدات |
| ١٢) صيدلية الوحدات - شارع النخدي - الوحدات | ١٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ١٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ١٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ١٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ١٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ١٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ١٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٢٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٢١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٢٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٢٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٢٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٢٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٢٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٢٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٢٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٢٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٣٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٣١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٣٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٣٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٣٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٣٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٣٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٣٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٣٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٣٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٤٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٤١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٤٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٤٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٤٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٤٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٤٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٤٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٤٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٤٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٥٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٥١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٥٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٥٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٥٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٥٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٥٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٥٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٥٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٥٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٦٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٦١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٦٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٦٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٦٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٦٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٦٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٦٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٦٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٦٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٧٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٧١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٧٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٧٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٧٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٧٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٧٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٧٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٧٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٧٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٨٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٨١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٨٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٨٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٨٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٨٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٨٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٨٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٨٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٨٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٩٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٩١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٩٢) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٩٣) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٩٤) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٩٥) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٩٦) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٩٧) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ٩٨) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ٩٩) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |
| ١٠٠) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز | ١٠١) صيدلية بسمه - شارع الجارندز |

الجوائز الأخرى:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ١) الجائزة الذهبية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٢٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ١٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٣٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٢٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٤٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٣٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٥٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٤٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٦٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٥٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٧٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٦٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٨٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٧٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨١) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٢) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٣) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٤) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٥) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٦) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٧) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٨) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ٩٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |
| ٨٩) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك | ١٠٠) الجائزة الفضية، تذكرة سفر عمان - نيويورك |

Self-rule opponents explore old means with new rule

JABALIYA REFUGEE CAMP (AP) — Islamic activists staged a protest march through the dusty alleyways of this refugee camp after mosque prayers Friday, but the standard chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" were followed by a new one: "No no to the autonomy government."

In the twilight between Israel's occupation and Palestinian self-rule, the Islamic opposition groups want to start sinking the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreement without risking participating in the self-rule experiment.

Despite the signing of the accord this week they are carrying on business as usual — organising commercial strikes to mark significant dates of the uprising against occupation, clashing with Israeli troops and threatening further attacks on Israelis.

This agreement cannot prevent us from obtaining the rest of our land. The solution will not be through signing papers," said the prayer leader Friday at the Izzedine Al Qassab mosque.

Opponents have vowed not to cause any internal bloodshed, but believe it could come if the Palestinian police try to block their activities. They spread rumours of impending martial law.

About 1,000 Palestinian police were leaving Cairo on Saturday for Rafah, just inside the Egyptian border, in preparation for their deployment in Gaza a day or two later, General Abdul Razzak Majida, the PLO's Gaza police commander, said Friday.

A complete transfer of authority is due by the end of May, when most of the 7,000 police coming from abroad should be in place.

Islamic activists took as a bad omen the fact that armed PLO supporters showed up to try to break the regular commercial strike they called Friday to mark the killing of six activists in 1988. A poster put up in the mosque said "even if

you try to shoot and kill us, we will not descend to your level." The strike was respected, and Islamic activists said they would keep organising them under the Palestinian authority. To show they were still fighting Israel, 200 demonstrators, some bearing black flags scrawled with religious slogans, marched to an army outpost. Three were wounded while throwing rocks at troops who responded with teargas and gunfire.

Despite PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's statements about seeking cooperation from all factions, few opponents think they will have any role to play in his administration. There is already violent infighting in Fateh, the main PLO faction loyal to Mr. Arafat, for control of local offices.

"We need at least one million ministries, because all of them want to be ministers. There is no chance for Hamas to be in this campaign for jobs," said Mahmoud Zahhar, a Hamas spokesman.

Both religious and secular opponents object to the accord for autonomy in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho for similar reasons. After a six-year uprising against occupation, they the areas included as much too small. They protest Israel's presence on all the borders and the fact that Israel retains total control over Jerusalem. The accord also postponed the issue of the 120,000 Jewish settlers until future talks.

"They said at the beginning of this process we would get back our land and our identity. Where is the land? Do we even have an ID card?" said Iyad Nasr, a 23-year-old sympathiser with Islamic Jihad. "We will keep trying to say no against the Israeli occupation with our machineguns."

That is where the potential for clashes comes, since the self-rule accord commits the Arafat administration to acting against anyone who tries to attack Israel.

Sufian Abu Zayde, the PLO

spokesman in Gaza, said opposition groups would be free to protest as long as they stayed inside the law.

A series of recent clashes between local Hamas and PLO supporters led to talks on an agreement not to infringe on each other's activities. But members said a broader understanding that would reserve a specific number of seats for Hamas in an autonomy government would have to emerge from talks outside the occupied territories.

Mr. Arafat has called for the release of Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, the jailed founder of Hamas, and thousands of his followers in prison in a bid for support. But Israel said they must sign a pledge renouncing violence first, which they consider an affront.

Palestinian analysts believe no group outside Fateh could win more the 20 per cent of the vote, putting them in the position of tacit support of the agreement without any real leverage to effect policy. Hence they opt for a high street profile.

The leftists are largely waiting for more details of the administration to emerge. The most hardcore, but small Islamic opposition, Islamic Jihad, is adamant in continuing as before.

The more popular Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, has said that it will not participate in general elections but remain active in municipal and professional councils. In Gaza Hamas controls the Islamic University with 4,000 students, charitable committees that distribute alms and scores of mosques.

So far, Islamic opponents are banking on the idea that Mr. Arafat, after the initial euphoria generated by his arrival, will not fulfill the promises of jobs and better lives.

"Arafat they will love. But when they realise he can't satisfy needs, they will come and listen to the mosque," Mr. Nasr said.

U.S. Congress gets optimistic assessment of Middle East

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is giving its most optimistic assessment yet to the prospects for peace in the Middle East.

Citing the Israeli-Palestinian accord on Gaza and Jericho signed this week and progress between Israel and Syria, administration witnesses told Congress Friday that 1994 could be a year of significant progress towards a comprehensive peace in the region torn by generations of violence.

"The promise of peace can be felt more strongly now than ever before," said Deputy Assistant Secretary of State

Daniel Kurtzer at a House appropriations sub-committee hearing.

Mr. Kurtzer pointed to some little-noticed breakthroughs in working groups that have been meeting since the 1991 Madrid peace conference that first brought Israel together with its Arab neighbours.

"Since the Madrid conference, Israelis and Arabs have negotiated almost continuously bilaterally and multilaterally," Mr. Kurtzer said.

He noted that a comprehensive peace settlement has not yet been achieved, but cited several positive steps in addition

to the self-rule agreement for the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

In Paris, an Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) working group has signed an economic agreement "with far-reaching implications for relations between them in the period ahead."

In the Hague, a multinational group on the environment has decided on a series of activities that will bring Israelis and Arabs together to solve longstanding environmental problems in the region.

In Muscat, Oman, a group working on contentious water problems in the region agreed on projects to rehabilitate water systems, promote desalination research and reuse waste water.

In Doha, Qatar, an arms control and regional security group is working on agreements to, among other things, establish a better communications network among countries in the region.

"A quiet but powerful transformation is underway throughout the region in the form of the multilateral negotiations," Mr. Kurtzer said in written testimony submitted at the hearing.

U.S. aid — \$1 million a year — helps fund the talks that officials said have included Israel, the PLO, Morocco, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

"The multilaterals represent the unheralded success of this peace process," Mr. Kurtzer said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran, S. Africa to resume ties

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran and South Africa are to resume relations after a 15-year hiatus, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The agency said the decision was announced in a statement released jointly in Tehran and Johannesburg. IRNA said talks on resuming ties were held between officials of the two countries through the Swiss embassy in Tehran, which looks after South African interests in Iran. Because of the now defunct apartheid system in South Africa, Iran had vowed never to resume relations with that country. South Africa held its first all-race elections last week, resulting in the victory of the African National Congress and its leader, Nelson Mandela. Iran severed ties with South Africa after the 1979 Islamic revolution brought a clerical government in power in Tehran. Before the revolution Iran was South Africa's major oil supplier.

Iran says U.S. mistreated diplomats

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has lodged a protest with the State Department for alleged mistreatment by U.S. customs of two senior Iranian officials who last month attended a conference in Washington, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Friday. The agency said Economy Minister Mohammad Hussein Adeli, who was subjected to "insulting" treatment by customs officials at Washington airport. "The U.S. Customs officials stopped the two senior Iranian diplomats, rechecked their suitcases and took photographs from them," IRNA said without elaboration. The two were in Washington to attend conferences of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Iran on Thursday sent a "strongly worded letter" to the State Department through the Pakistani embassy in Washington, which looks after Iranian interests in the United States, IRNA said. The United States severed diplomatic ties with Iran in 1979 to protest the seizure of the U.S. embassy by Iranian militants, who held 52 Americans hostage for 444 days. The letter to the State Department said: "The treatment not only violated the basic diplomatic principles but contradicted the U.S. government's responsibility towards international organisations based in America," IRNA said. "U.S. customs officials had repeatedly shown such disrespect for Iranian officials visiting America for international sessions," according to the news agency. It said Iran "expected that the U.S., as a country which hosts international sessions, would put an end to such practice."

Spanish consulate employees jailed in visa racket

RABAT (R) — Four Spanish consulate employees in Morocco were jailed for between three months and two years on Friday on conviction after selling visas to Moroccans, judicial sources said. Eight Spaniards and four Moroccans stood trial before a court in the northern city of Tangier charged with embezzlement, forgery and abuse of authority by demanding cash in return for visas to visit Spain. Jose Luis Moreno was jailed for two years, Miguel de Vicente one year, Jose Juan Moreno six months and Fernando Montecassini three months. All four, local employees in the visa section of the Spanish consulate in Tangier, were each fined 1,000 dirhams (\$110). Four other Spanish employees were acquitted. Three Moroccan accomplices who proposed visas in return for cash payments were jailed for between one and two years. A fourth was acquitted. Spanish visas are normally issued free to qualified applicants.

Senators urge probe of Gulf war gas pills

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Senate Democratic leader called Friday for an investigation into a drug given to U.S. soldiers in the Gulf war to protect against nerve gas that many believe caused nerve damage itself. Senator George Mitchell and other senators made the call after a Senate panel heard conflicting testimony over the effects of pyridostigmine, which some soldiers have blamed for pain, fatigue and other ailments. "This nation has an unshakable obligation to pursue vigorously and with diligence answers to the questions of what caused these illnesses," said Mr. Mitchell. Two Gulf war soldiers and a military chaplain who served in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait told the panel they took the pills in an effort to protect against Iraq's possible use of nerve gas. They said they were not warned of possible side effects.

Bounty set for suspect in Iranian's murder

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistani authorities Friday offered a 500,000 rupee (\$16,666) reward for information leading to the arrest of an escaped prisoner allegedly involved in the 1990 murder of an Iranian diplomat. The offer came in an advertisement published in newspapers Friday by the government of the province of Punjab, along with a picture of the accused, Mohammad Riaz Busra. The Iranian diplomat, Sadiq Ganji, who was director general of the Iranian Cultural Centre, was shot dead in Punjab provincial capital Lahore.

Home News

Majali briefs Cabinet on Arafat's visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Ministers Saturday heard a briefing by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on the outcome of a visit to Jordan Thursday by Palestine President Yasser Arafat and his talks with His Majesty King Hussein.

The prime minister said that the talks covered Jordan's support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its endeavours to ensure the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

Dr. Majali also reported to the Cabinet on the outcome of a two-day visit to Jordan by Japanese Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa who ended his stay in the Kingdom Friday by signing an agreement for \$125 million in soft loans to Jordan.

Mr. Kakizawa and Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz also discussed matters related to economic cooperation between Jordan and Japan, and prospects for Middle East peace. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan submitted to the Cabinet a report on his visit to Cairo last week where he attended the official signing of an accord by Palestinian and Israeli leaders on the implementation of Palestinian self-rule in Jericho and the Gaza Strip.

Minister of Industry and

Trade Rima Khalaf reported on the opening in Paris Thursday of a seminar aimed at promoting Franco-Jordanian economic and trade ties and investments by the both sides' private sectors as well as joint Jordanian-French economic ventures in the Kingdom.

Minister of Education Khalid Omari reported on the outcome of a meeting by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Executive Council in Paris. The meeting, held last week, covered areas of cooperation in cultural affairs between UNESCO and Third World countries.

Upon the recommendation of Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Ahmad Akaleh, the Cabinet dissolved the Municipal Council of Aqaba. The council had lost its quorum following the resignation of several of its members.

The Council of Ministers has appointed a committee, chaired by the Aqaba district governor, to run the municipality's affairs.

Likewise the Cabinet dissolved the Municipal Council of Ajloun and appointed the district governor to chair a committee to run that municipality's affairs. The Ajloun local council members had resigned their posts.

15-year-old girl killed in 'crime of honour'

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 15-year-old shepherd girl Friday was shot and killed by her brother in Jiza, a small town near Queen Alia International Airport, according to family sources.

Khawla, M. was shot several times by her 25-year-old brother Ibrahim M., who surrendered to police immediately after the killing. The mother of the girl told the Jordan Times.

According to the mother, Ibrahim received an anonymous letter saying that his sister was having an affair with someone. She said, her son, "without investigating the letter or finding out its source" showed it to his father.

The mother said her husband gave Ibrahim his licensed gun and asked him to go and kill his sister to "cleanse the family honour."

The mother said she was

baking bread outdoors Friday evening when she heard several gun shots. The woman said she rushed into the tent where she lived with her 18 children and husband and found her daughter lying in a pool of blood.

The woman expressed anger over her daughter's death because, she said, Khawla was a well-behaved girl.

"I don't have any idea who would send such letter to my son, because my daughter never saw anyone, and she did not have any enemies," the mother told the Jordan Times.

"But I also believe in fate, and my daughter's fate was to die, and we can't question God's wishes," she added.

According to the woman, the family buried the girl on Saturday, while her son was still in police custody for further investigation in the case.

Police would only confirm the incident, and declined to give details.

Team starts restoration of temple in Jerash

AMMAN (J.T.) — A team of Italian specialists from the Turin Institute of Archaeology this week started reconstructing the Artemis Temple and the ancient stores which lay along the Roman street in Jerash, according to Department of Antiquities Director General Safwan Tell.

Dr. Tell said the reconstruction work is conducted in close cooperation with and assistance from the department of antiquities in implementation of an agreement signed with the Italian government last year providing for Italian specialists to carry out restoration work on the ancient city of Jerash.

The start of the work at Jerash followed closely the end of an excavation season at Tel Esh-Shuna in northern Jordan, said Dr. Tell.

He said the excavation, which was conducted from mid-March to the end of April, was conducted by a team from the University of Edinburgh and another from the University of Durham in England, and was sponsored by the British Institute for Archaeology and History in Amman.

Dr. Tell said that at the archaeological site dating back to the fifth century A.D., the archaeologists unearthed a variety of artefacts.

Mu'tah professor wins prize for scientific work

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hassan Abdullah Salabat of Mu'tah University Saturday was awarded the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Prize for Young Scientists for the year 1993 for his research entitled "Electrical Properties of Metal

Chlorides Doped Poly (Urethane — Urea — imide) Block Copolymers."

TWAS grants this \$2,000 prize to young scientists in the developing countries in four fields of pure science: namely, chemistry, biology, mathematics and physics.

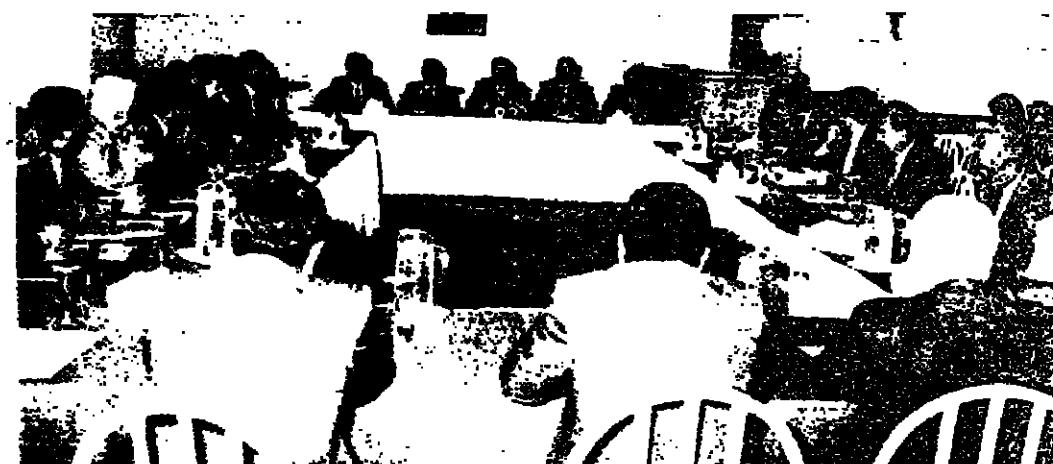
PLO appeals for Arab aid to support educational broadcasts to occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Education Department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Amman Saturday appealed to the Arab states to provide aid in support of educational programmes by radio and television broadcast from Jordan and other Arab states to students in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Jihad Qarsholly, the department director, made the appeal at the opening of a two-week meeting here designed to review educational programmes for the Palestinian students.

Under the autonomy rule signed between Israel and the PLO last Wednesday, students in the occupied lands will continue to benefit from such programmes especially those stressing history, geography and religious education, said Mr. Qarsholly.

In opening the meeting Assem Ghosheh, director general of the Palestinian Affairs Department, said Jordan will continue to provide educational facilities to



Delegates Saturday attend the opening of a two-week meeting to review educational programmes for Palestinian students in the occupied lands (Petra photo)

Palestinian students through these programmes.

Also the government is offering Palestinian students from the occupied lands an opportunity to pursue their education at Jordanian schools and universities, said Mr. Ghosheh.

Several issues pertaining to

these aired educational programmes, coordination in programme preparation by Arab states and other relevant matters will be discussed by the meeting's delegates, who represent Jordan, Syria and Egypt, host countries to Palestinian refugees.

The Arab League-sponsored

meeting is being attended also by Palestinian educationalists, the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALESCO) and the Arab Countries Broadcasting Union.

Only Lebanon, among countries hosting Palestinian refugees, was absent from Saturday's opening session.

Pharmacists to hold international conference

Jordanian pharmaceutical firms export 80% of their products

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Nearly 80 per cent of the total production of Jordanian pharmaceutical firms is being marketed in Arab and foreign countries bringing in at least JD 50 million annually, according to Husam Mismar, president of the Jordan Pharmacists Association (JPA).

According to Mr. Mismar, who spoke to the Jordan Times Saturday, the high quality products manufactured by seven companies in Jordan are competing strongly with major world firms and ensuring the largest income for Jordan after the Kingdom's phosphate and potash exports.

Mr. Mismar told a press conference at the Professional

Association Complex earlier Saturday that the seventh Jordanian Pharmacy Conference will open at the Royal Cultural Centre Wednesday with the participation of 80 pharmacists from Jordan and Arab and non-Arab countries.

The conference is designed to underline the importance of the pharmaceutical industry in health care, particularly its development in Jordan, Mr. Mismar said.

One of the major issues to be tackled at the two-day meeting will be the 20-year-old law governing the practice of pharmacy and the Health Ministry's policy of permitting newly-graduated pharmacists to open a drug store, said Mr. Mismar. The existing law has a number of flaws and shortcomings and

can by no means help pharmacists to promote their profession, he added.

As to the mushrooming of drug stores, the JPA is still demanding that the health ministry introduce a control system restricting their opening, said Mr. Mismar.

At present, Jordan has 1025 pharmacies and more are being opened, mainly in the cities, but the JPA is demanding that newly-graduated pharmacists be allowed to open drug stores two or three years after submitting an application following graduation, especially in cities, said the association president.

The organisation is also requesting that an unspecified number of pharmacies be allowed to open in the villages and rural regions which

lack pharmacy services, added Mr. Mismar.

According to the JPA, which is organising the meeting under the theme "The Pharmacy Profession: the reality and the challenge," 25 working papers are to be reviewed by participants covering a wide range of issues including problems that face women pharmacists.

Among the other demands that the JPA would be making at the coming conference is a request that the government ban hospital pharmacies from selling drugs to the public except hospital patients, according to Mr. Mismar.

The delegates to the conference will come from Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Sudan in addition to the United States.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Minister receives visiting U.S. officials

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan Saturday received a delegation representing the U.S. War College currently on a visit to Jordan to get acquainted with the latest developments in Arab-Israeli peace process. Mr. Al Hassan underlined Jordan's commitment to a just peace based on U.N. Security Council resolutions. He also praised U.S.-Jordanian relations underlining the U.S. role in the peace process, and reiterated Jordan's position towards the Palestinians.

Parliament speakers meet patriarch

AMMAN (Petra) — The speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Ahmad Lawzi and Taher Masri, Saturday conferred separately with the visiting head of the Melchite church, Patriarch Maximos Hakim of Antioch and All Orient. The patriarch called for cooperation among Muslims and Christians in their quest to safeguard the holy places in Jerusalem. He also voiced his appreciation of His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to defend the holy shrines in Palestine.

Ikebana symposium begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Middle East regional symposium of Ikebana International Society, which is devoted to promoting interest in flowers and flower arranging, began Saturday at the Amman Marriott Hotel under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. Ikebana is the traditional Japanese art of flower arranging, and the Jordan Chapter of Ikebana International was established in 1985.

The proven skill, mastery of Souad Nemeh Akrouk

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Royal Cultural Centre opened its doors on May 7 to the works of Souad Nemeh Akrouk, an artist whose paintings on silk prove skill and mastery.

The size of the exhibition, seen from afar, would be enough to impress any viewer, but a close look does more than that; it ascertains the sensibility, attention to detail and adroitness of the artist.

Obviously influenced by Chinese silk paintings, both in the choice of theme and colour, some of Mrs. Akrouk's frames and partition screens are representing young Japanese women in sumptuous kimonos, gracefully seated under willow reeds or exotic birds and landscapes whose exquisite colours catch the eye and touch the romantic chord in the viewer.

Ballerinas in action — gracefully balanced on the tip of their toes, pirouetting or tying the laces of their slippers — children playing

peacefully or some bygone centuries' bourgeois dancing the polka, all have in common poise, elegance, gracefulness and delicate movement.

This world of fairy tales or intriguing landscapes is then brought by the artist to a more familiar ground, that of our landmarks: Petra, Jerash, Wadi Rum and Aqaba.

These bigger paintings have the colours we can easily recognise: purple, ochre sand, blue, green, pink. The details are amazingly executed by the artist who takes her work a step further, doing the job of a restorer, as is the case of "Petra Old" where statues ensconced in niches, capitals and entablatures decorating the "Treasury" are carefully done to reproduce the originals, as they must have been when first carved in the rock.

Koranic verses in beautiful calligraphy add to the great variety of themes tackled by Mrs. Akrouk in her works.

Abstract works are not forgotten. They are fewer and smaller in size, but the amount of work invested in them must have been enormous. Spirals, circles, ovals, explosions of colour meet the eye, taking the imagination to some other world, to the



The work of Souad Nemeh Akrouk

beginning of life and creation. The exhibition is on until May 12.

WHAT'S GOING ON

BALLET

★ Ballet performance by Al-Ahliya School for Girls students at the main theatre of the Royal Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

FILMS

★ Chilean film entitled "Hay Algo Allá Afuera" (There is Something Out There) at the main theatre of the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m. (80 minutes).

★ Film entitled "Meet John Doe" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m. (120 minutes).

ARAB POETS GATHERING

★ Poetry recital by Arab poets at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:00 p.m. (Tel. 695291).

SEMINAR

★ Seminar in Arabic entitled "The Role of Private Hospitals in

the Service of the Jordanian Society" with the participation of Dr. Ibrahim Al Khalidi, Dr. Ali Al Hawamdeh, and Dr. Mohammad Makhos at Abdul Hameed Shouman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Spring exhibition of "Artists Expressions in Wool" the Bani Hamida project of art works and rugs at the Jordan Contractors Association Building in Abdoun (Tel. 612169).

★ "Spring Exhibition" (quilts, cushions, lamp shades, etc) at the Zawadeh villa, opposite the Contractor's Association in Abdoun (Tel. 656172).

★ Exhibition of silk paintings by artist Souad Nemeh Akrouk at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Drawings exhibition by Nazareth School students at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition of paintings by artists Walid Sheet and Nazem Hamed at Alla Art Gallery (Tel. 639303).

We Welcome You Starting From May 15th

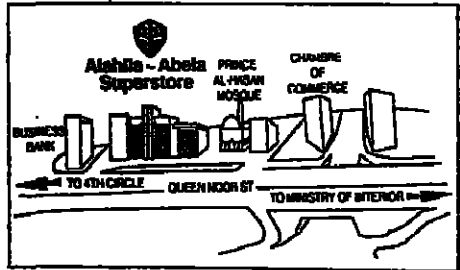


Alahlla ~ Abela Superstore



All you look for and a little bit more

Alahlla ~ Abela, a unique service-oriented, customer-friendly store, with pleasant atmosphere and a modern touch that makes shopping enjoyable at all times.



A PROJECT OF ALAHLIA COMMERCIAL CENTERS P.S.C.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975
جورنال تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Speaking out, wrong issue

SOME MEMBERS of Parliament took time last Wednesday from their deliberations on the proposed sales tax law to voice their disagreement with the Cairo signing of the PLO-Israeli accord on limited self-rule for the Palestinians in Gaza and Jericho. The Islamist deputies in particular wanted to condemn the pact and even went as far as ostracising Jordan for accepting to attend the signing ceremony.

In technical terms, the Jordanian Parliament, whether the Lower or the Upper House, has no jurisdiction to pass legal or political judgement on something that the PLO has consented to for one reason or another. Yet the close relationship to the West Bank in terms of geography, demography and economic and military security — makes it natural for our politicians and parliamentarians to express their views on an issue that would ultimately affect us. The common and long history that both banks have shared makes it incumbent on Jordanians to live through the agonies and tribulations of their brethren across the river and react to every development that would have a bearing on them.

In this sense we sympathise with those parliamentarians who wanted to speak out on the latest Cairo accord because they must have felt that they were debating an issue affecting their own people across the river. Still Jordan has recognised the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people at the Rabat Arab summit in 1974. There can be but one conclusion to be drawn from that step: the PLO alone has the sole responsibility to negotiate peace on behalf of the Palestinian people. Jordan may differ with the PLO on its negotiating tactics or strategy and above all for lack of coordination with it especially on matters that have implications for this country. But this is about all that parliamentarians can do at the appropriate time.

The PLO-Israeli economic accord that was struck recently would have been a more suitable topic for consideration given its clear implications on the Jordanian economy. Even aspects of the Cairo deal touching on security matters could be discussed and debated again because of such implications.

Beyond these dimensions, however, we are afraid our parliamentarians cannot and should not go. The people's representatives in Parliament are first and foremost Jordanian nationalists elected for the sole purpose of defending Jordanian interests in the best way possible. The fact that some members belong to the group or another does not bestow on them the right to get the House involved in other matters, except perhaps to express a sentiment that cannot be binding on the country as a whole.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Saturday criticised the leaders of Yemen for allowing their country to be devastated as a result of their selfish lust for power. What is happening in Yemen, following four years of unity, is sheer — madness because it is tantamount to suicide, said the daily. The war in Yemen, seems to be fiercer than wars among hostile nations, because those who are in a position to take war decisions seem to be intent on destroying their own country and killing Yemeni kinsmen, added the daily. The only beneficiary of this war are the enemies of the Arab Nations and the enemies of democracy which has been mushrooming in the country, continued the daily. As we watch and hear about the conflict, said the paper, we can only remember what has happened to Somalia and its people and also Afghanistan whose leaders have left it in ruins. We can only appeal to the leaders of Yemen to opt for reason and stop the madness and prevent further bloodshed and destruction, concluded the daily.

AL DUSTOUR daily hailed the work of the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, which said the paper, has charted new plans for further developing Jordanian-Egyptian relations. The bilateral agreement serves as a torch lighting the dark path of the Arab Nation and as a model to be copied by Arab states, it said. The agreement, which also provided for joint action towards ending inter-Arab differences, comes in the wake of a long, bitter stage of divisions among Arabs that has rendered Arab ranks in total disarray, according to the paper. What was clear from the Jordanian and Egyptian prime minister statements at the press conference and the joint press statement outlining the main points of the agreement, clearly indicates the two countries' keenness on pursuing efforts for the construction of fruitful cooperation and coordination in matters for ending divisions within the Arab World, added the daily.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

New monetary policy to render the dinar convertible but to retain indirect controls

THE CENTRAL BANK of Jordan (CBJ) is about to put into effect a new monetary policy in light of the economic stability which was restored in a very short period of time after the crisis of 1988/1989.

The Jordanian dinar (JD) will officially become a convertible currency for all current transactions. The inflow and outflow of foreign exchange will be liberalised, and Jordan will accept the obligations of Article 8 of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) articles of agreement. Capital transfers, however, will continue to be restricted. Resident Jordanians will not be allowed to invest abroad except in accordance with a new set of regulations.

Thus, the present out-of-date law of currency control will be abolished, and a new liberal law will be introduced. The present legal restrictions were always of only technical importance, as the Central Bank never tried to enforce restrictions harshly. The convertibility of the JD will not wait for the new law because its implementation falls under the jurisdiction of the CBJ board of directors and the Council of Ministers.

Following this eminent step, the JD will become as good as the dollar, and can be used as a reserve currency by other states and individuals. The JD will be traded freely inside and outside Jordan.

Convertibility of the JD should not be mixed up with floatation which is ruled out. The exchange rate of the JD will not be completely left to the fluctuations of the market forces. The Central Bank will continue to buy and sell foreign exchange in accordance with a price list which will be published on daily basis as usual, and will support the JD when and if it comes under pressure due to temporary and passing developments whether economic or political. CBJ does not normally allow a margin wider than 1 per cent between its official price list and the going rate in the parallel market. Therefore, the adequacy of CBJ's foreign reserves will gain extra value as a source of stability and public confidence in the exchange rate of the JD which should always be stable and realistic.

The expected objections to this new major step will be that it may encourage or facilitate capital flight. But we know out of experience that the old restrictions did not prevent massive

capital flight when reasons were abundant during the eighties, and Jordanian deposits abroad reached \$2.5 billion. Under the liberal policy of the Central Bank since 1991, public confidence was restored and capital flight was reversed. It is estimated that some \$2 million of private money is returning home every day since then over and above the regular remittance from expatriates, which also soared for the same reasons.

In countries where capital movements are restricted harshly, the foreign exchange moves in one direction: outwards, because the homeland looks like a trap that accepts incoming transfers but denies outgoing transfers. In order for private foreign exchange to come and settle inside the country, the owner should feel free to take it out if he so wishes.

At the same time, the Central Bank feels confident that the banking system has matured and overcome its difficulties, strengthened its financial position and abandoned malpractices which became the norm at one time. CBJ therefore will no longer need to lead the banks directly and make decisions for them. CBJ control can be conducted effectively by indirect means rather than administrative means. Managers of banks were informed accordingly, and the machinery to practice indirect control of banking activities is already in place and operating efficiently.

A free banking system and a convertible JD will definitely enhance the confidence in the JD, which is already high due to the credibility of the Central Bank of Jordan. This will be applicable to Jordanians and non-Jordanians alike. The new monetary policy will be instrumental in attracting foreign currencies.

Of special importance is the positive impact on Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. To them the new policy means an additional assurance that Jordan will continue to be the ideal and safe place for their savings. Palestinian's deposits in Jordanian banks, whether in local or foreign currencies, will continue to be under their disposal in the currency of their choice, just as if they were deposited in London or Zurich, or New York, only it will not be exposed to the political risks of freezing, which became routine in America and Europe, especially when it comes to Arab capital.

Post-election soul searching for Dutch

By Jeremy Lovell
Reuter

AMSTERDAM — Famed for their instinctive liberalism, the Dutch face a period of soul searching after elections which redrew the political map and revealed deep rifts in the country's treasured social consensus.

In common with the rest of Europe, economic recession, immigration and unemployment have begun to strip away the veneer of tolerance and polarised public opinion in the Netherlands.

The extreme right Central Democrats won three seats in Tuesday's elections against the single seat held by the party since 1989, while the extreme left Socialist Party went from nowhere to two seats in the 150-seat lower house of parliament.

But even in the broad middle ground of Dutch politics the left and right wings represented by D66 and the liberals respectively both made sweeping gains while the more centrist Christian Democrat and Labour parties — which had ruled since 1989 — between them lost one third of their seats.

The Liberals, who have proposed barring the children of illegal immigrants from school, gained nine seats to 31. D66, which preaches ethnic and religious tolerance, doubled its number of seats to 24.

Reflecting Europe's looming problem of an ageing population, two groups fighting for the rights of the elderly made their first appearance on the political landscape, winning a total of seven seats. Although Labour, which under the leadership of Finance Minister Wim Kok has gravitated towards the centre, emerged as the largest single party with 37 seats against the Christian Democrats 34, the margin between all four mainstream groups narrowed considerably.

The country is now certain to be ruled by a three-way coalition for the first time in 13 years. "We have seen a regrettable shift to the extreme right. That is a black page in

this country's political history. We must all ensure that right-wing extremism and xenophobia can no longer spread like a poison in this country," said Mr. Kok, the man most likely to become the country's next prime minister.

Dutch national newspapers, which are noticeably partisan, reflected the broad divide in political views.

The left-wing daily De Volkskrant picked the so-called Purple Coalition of Labour, D66 and the Liberals — excluding the Christian Democrats from government for the first time since World War II.

The Protestant newspaper Trouw said the election result pointed to a centre-left coalition of Labour, D66 and the Christian Democrats. The conservative De Telegraaf plumped for a centre-right coalition of Liberals, D66 and Christian Democrats.

But one fact is not in doubt. With unemployment standing at just under one in 10 of the workforce and rising at a rate of 18,000 people a month, the country's bounteous social security system — a matter of national pride for years — can no longer take the strain.

To a greater or lesser extent, all four of the main parties have vowed reform — ranging from trenchant cuts proposed by the Liberals, through lesser reforms from the Christian Democrats and D66 to relatively minor changes put forward by Labour.

All four also agree on the need to slash rampant budget deficits and get the country back to work — a theme stressed by all European Union heads of state and government at their summit in Brussels in December.

The crucial question facing whoever eventually forms the Netherlands' next government is how to treat the disease without killing the patient.

LETTERS

Making the roads safe

To the Editor:

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC Day and the tragic unnecessary accident near Madaba last week brought to our attention the high rate of road accidents in Jordan. Perhaps this is an appropriate opportunity to request that a crash barrier is put all the way down the steep winding road which goes from above Salt down to Deir Alla? I go there on the early morning bus once a week, and while I note that some drivers are good, others drive far too fast and overtake on sharp bends when it is impossible to see if anything is coming up the other way. On my latest journey, we were right on the edge of a big drop without a barrier on the wrong side of the road as we overtook a truck on one of these dangerous bends. Barriers are present in a few places, but I feel that before long a busload of people will disappear over the edge where there isn't a barrier. It nearly happened in the winter when a bus I was in actually skidded and zig-zagged across the road and only just righted itself in time, by some miracle. I am aware that barriers all the way would be expensive, but is there a price for lives?

We are told that there are far too many pedestrian accidents. I suggest that as well as trying to make pedestrians (particularly children), aware of the dangers of careless driving, it might be an idea if motorists were made more aware too. Just one small example is that nine out of 10 of them do not indicate with their wipers that they intend to turn right at filters on cross-roads. Many times I myself have nearly been hit as I have crossed from the islands at Seventh Circle because I was not sure which way the vehicles were going. When I have pointed to the wipers, the drivers looked in amazement.

Miss Chris Larter,
Amman.

Let us know Jordan

To the Editor:

I AM an all-too brief visitor to your country but I feel moved to make the following observations. Before coming here on our short vacation, my wife and I had heard many disparaging remarks about Arab countries. Jordan is the first such country we have visited and we have been most impressed by the courtesy and friendliness offered by the people we have met. We have been surprised, too, by the honesty of ordinary people.

I suggest that Jordan advertises itself better in Australia. Few Australians have any idea of what Jordan has to offer in the way of historical and archaeological treasures; but your true wealth is in your people and, especially, your delightful children!

Michael Shepherd
Blackwood

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are return of unused manuscripts.



'Waiting period?? How long is waiting period?'

Is fear the only way to keep the order?

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — Just as the utmost limits of international tolerance were reached, the Bosnian Serbs appear to have let go of a thoroughly devastated Gorazde. Once again, their wily brinkmanship has achieved key aims and left them to calculate what they can get away with next time. But grave damage has already been done, not only to the victims and their own town, but to the whole network of states and international institutions charged with trying to run the world rationally. More and more, people are wondering whether it is any use entrusting the United Nations, NATO, the European Union, the United States and Russia with the task of order.

Recently television news quite matter-of-factly displayed how easy they are to defy. After being kept waiting around Sarajevo airport for five days, a convoy of armoured U.N. vehicles finally got permission from Bosnian Serb leaders to proceed to beleaguered Gorazde with observers and medical personnel.

But about 32 kilometres from their goal, a couple of hundred women were sent to block the road, an outrageously transparent excuse to break the leaders' word. The U.N. troops, bewildered, climbed down and stared helplessly at the little crowd. Their command ordered a U-turn, back to Sarajevo. The women blocked the retreat as well. After long negotiation, to prove that the U.N. is at the mercy

of the aggressors, they were allowed to give up and go away. I was watching this cat-and-mouse game, the world organisation and its powers playing mouse, with a visiting Russian couple. The man, really a gentle, kind, intelligent person, exploded in anger.

"This is what your Western liberal democracy leads to, this is the result of your foolishness," he said.

"You take away fear and

one, fear of being caught, dishonoured and perhaps, punished — and they do shape the way people behave. But this was about fear of brute force, impotent fear of being overwhelmed, fear of certain, terrible pain as the prime mover of societies. Is that all there is to rely on?

Freedom, the rule of law, civic decency as about liberation from that kind of fear. We argued whether sustaining it didn't have to mean accepting dictatorship. The

mined by events, especially in Bosnia, but also in Rwanda, Somalia and elsewhere.

It leads to the shocking urge to call for restoration of mortal fear as the only available alternative. This is worse than war, it is abandonment of the very principles that democracies — usually reluctantly — wage war to defend. It is a belief that human beings are so inevitably, incorrigibly perverse that they can find no other way to organise their societies and their world.

What an exit from the global fears inspired by the cold war. It challenges the essential idea of democracy, that people are able to govern themselves more or less acceptably, in a way that the totalitarians never managed to achieve.

This is what is at stake now as leaders herald their first little steps — a European, Russian, American, U.N. contact group — to "coordinate" a policy on Yugoslavia. They have come near to losing what they call "credibility", a way of saying trust in their wisdom and their will to use human capacity for reason to beat back encroachments of the eternal human jungle.

There is a cost. The rule of law is not self-generating and it always requires enforcement. But if they cannot offer anything else, including joint resolve on military action, the nostalgia for total fear as the one effective means of keeping order will engulf all hopes.

International Herald Tribune.

the whole world goes to pot. Nothing else can make it work. Bomb Belgrade, kill 50,000, and that would be the end of such nonsense."

His wife, a sprightly editor with one of those tragic Soviet family stories, disagreed. "We lived our whole lives with fear, so deep we didn't even know how totally we submitted until a few years ago," she said. "That's not the way, nothing good comes of it."

Of course, there are all kinds of fears — fear of humiliation, fear of looking ridiculous, fear of hurting some-

pained argument dividing Americans on the sentence of caning a juvenile vandal in Singapore is over whether an orderly, safe society justifies, indeed requires, discipline derived from a high level of that fear.

International society has no constituted police force or system of justice. The various organisations it has developed are an attempt to build some rules of state behaviour based on widespread consent, recognition of mutual benefit in settling disputes without open conflict. That attempt is being under-

Russia's prime minister wants Western trade barriers scrapped

MOSCOW (R) — Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, giving a confident, if modest, assessment of Russia's economic prospects, accused the West of limiting access to world markets.

"They smile at us broadly and nicely but when it comes to actions, thousands of reasons are found to bar us from Western markets," he said in remarks published in the government newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta Friday.

The theme of Western protectionism was taken up by Alexander Shokhin, one of Mr. Chernomyrdin's six deputies and the economics minister, who said it was costing Russia \$3 billion a year.

Mr. Shokhin told Interfax News Agency Friday that there had been insufficient progress in removing "discriminatory" restrictions on the sale of Russian goods.

Mr. Chernomyrdin, in remarks taken from a recent address to newspaper editors, said the Russian economy had touched bottom and now had solid ground under its feet for recovery.

After 18 months in office, his government was now consolidated and worked as a single unit, he said.

Production was still falling, but the financial system was stabilising and inflation was under control. The rouble was becoming a sought-after currency in neighbouring countries.

Mr. Chernomyrdin then turned his attention to Russia's Western trade partners and found them wanting.

"We are gradually paying our debts, we are not asking for anything from anyone for the second year," he said. "We only want Russia to have equal conditions on world markets, instead of humiliating ones."

"The main condition which we insist on everywhere is that we are not kept in the autarky of the world market like a poor relation," he said. "We have plenty to trade with, we have competitive products. And not just raw materials."

He cited space research, nuclear technology, machinery and metals. Russia could produce more oil, nuclear fuel or weapons.

Mr. Chernomyrdin, a career bureaucrat, was widely



Viktor Chernomyrdin

seen as a conservative close to state-run industry when he took over in December 1992. But he has surprised many Western economists by sticking to a moderate market reformist line.

Since embracing the concepts of capitalism and free trade after the collapse of communism, Russia has become increasingly irritated at what it sees as Western schizophrenia.

Politicians argue that on the one hand the United States and Western Europe are happy to promise large sums in loans and aid for Russia, while on the other they shut their markets to Russian goods to protect their own producers.

They have also accused Western states of hiding their

own commercial interests behind a smokescreen of security concerns, particularly over the aborted sale of Russian rocket engines to India last year.

President Boris Yeltsin complained to President Bill Clinton last year that there were about 300 different U.S. laws and procedural restrictions limiting Russian goods.

Mr. Shokhin tackled the 1974 Jackson-Vanik amendment, designed to make the Kremlin allow Jews to emigrate, which though not enforced remains on the statute books.

"The United States lags behind Western Europe in this matter as its legislation is before treats Russia as a country with a state trading and economic system," Mr. Shokhin told Interfax.

"That shows itself in particular in the application to Russia of the Jackson-Vanik amendment which allows discriminatory measures to be taken against Russia," he said.

Mr. Shokhin said Russia and the European Union were close to concluding an agreement which would define Russia as a state with a transitional economy, not a state-run one.

Peace: The Jordanian economy and financial sector

Following is the address delivered on April 29, 1994, by Dr. Umayya Toukan, director-general of the Amman Financial Market at an international conference organised by the United Kingdom in cooperation with the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

The conference, entitled "Financial Markets in the Middle East — New opportunities for investments and regional cooperation," was held under the auspices of the Regional Economic Working Group of the multilateral track of the Middle East peace process.



Umayya Toukan

After months of inactivity in the Washington peace talks, the Israeli government and the PLO announced they had reached an accord way off in Norway.

The two sides entered a complex negotiating period marked by frequent setbacks and rarer successes. One may want to begin speculating about which sectors will benefit in the coming months.

In the long run, the sectors most likely to gain are high technology, especially telecommunications, food processing, infrastructure, construction, and tourism. Banks also will benefit to the extent that further flows of funds are channelled through them. There is a widely held assumption that some industries might be hurt. However, the arguments behind this are not so clear.

Rather than assume peace to result in a zero-sum outcome. It might be more plausible to expect that the economic benefits of peace will reach entire populations as a result of expanded opportunities.

To speak of peace in terms of the benefits of opening markets is clouded by some speculation which still surrounds the degree of potential investment opportunities peace would actually bring. One can talk about the mutual potential benefits derived as a result of an increase in aggregate demand or the free movements of the factors of production, and one can talk about cooperation in the fields of agriculture, industry, and water resources.

As of this date, draft proposals and agendas of cooperation between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the autonomous regions of Palestine are well into effect. Issues concerning currency and exchange rates, and issues concerning money supply and investment are the most relevant for this paper.

The Jordanian dinar (JD) will continue to be used in the autonomous regions of Palestine. The most relevant implication arising from the use of the JD as legal tender in the autonomous regions of Palestine is that the liquidity needed to finance real economic activity there would be provided, in part, through the Jordanian money supply. The impact of this arrangement on the exchange rate of the JD can best be understood through studying the expected movements on certain variables. Specifically, these variables include: Expected growth in income, expected interest rates, and expected inflation in the West Bank.

Expected growth in income or GDP in the autonomous regions of Palestine, and consequently the liquidity in JDs needed to finance this activity can more formally be referred to as money demand. An increase in money demand, resulting from real growth in GDP would cause the exchange rate to appreciate given the specified stock of money supply. Non-parity in interest rates between assets denominated in JDs and assets denominated in other currencies such as U.S. dollars would cause exchange rates movements. Furthermore, inflation rate differentials, or non-parity of purchasing power in Jordan and in the autonomous regions of Palestine, also causes exchange rate movements.

Modern theories of exchange rate determination view the exchange rate as the relative price of two stocks of money rather than the relative price of two outputs (exports and imports). Since the currency is viewed as a financial asset similar to a bond or share, the price of this asset (the exchange rate) depends on the demand and supply of this asset. The demand, as in the case of other assets, depends on return (incorporating risk), and level of income.

The return is represented by the nominal interest rate and the inflation rate, while the level of income is represented by economic activity, or GDP. Money supply, on the other hand, originates in foreign reserves, domestic assets, and a multiplier summarising the existing required reserve ratios (or Central Bank behaviour), and the behaviour of depositors and banks.

It may be useful at this point to reflect on the present mechanism of the exchange rate in Jordan. The exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar is fixed against a basket of currencies. The Central Bank quotes daily for the commercial banks a buying and selling price of the JD against the U.S. dollar and other currencies. This policy produced a stable exchange rate for the JD since 1989 at around JD 0.7 against the U.S. dollar. The theoretical framework that mostly approximates this arrangement is the monetary approach to the balance of payments under the fixed exchange rate system.

This outlook suggests that any disturbance that causes a movement in demand for money will cause the currency to appreciate or depreciate. Thus, to prevent the exchange rate from fluctuating, the Central Bank must buy and sell foreign reserves (either directly or through commercial banks) thereby changing the foreign exchange component of the money supply until equilibrium is reached. This is how a disturbance in money demand gets transmitted to the balance of payments. The same result could have been obtained by changing the domestic currency component of the money supply (domestic credit) to equilibrate money demand and money supply. The difficulty with the latter approach is that changes in domestic credit feed back into foreign reserves thereby making the final outcome uncertain as it depends on the exact

relationship or feedback between foreign reserves and domestic credit. Therefore, domestic credit management by the Central Bank (some form of a reaction function) should be viewed as a serious task and should be done as efficiently as possible.

Furthermore, the Central Bank may have a desired level of demand for international reserves (say three months imports) and it adjusts domestic credit following the discrepancy between the actual level and the desired level of reserves. In this case, when a disturbance results, for example, in an actual level of reserves which is below that of the desired level as defined by the Central Bank demand function (a case common to developing countries), the Central Bank may respond by decreasing domestic credit to invite reserve inflow. It should be clear by now that the main determinants of the relative return on financial assets, namely, the interest rates, the exchange rate, and the inflation rate are determined simultaneously. In developing countries where nominal interest rates are rigid, domestic credit management acquires a special significance.

To test the validity of this result, we should observe the main economic variables in Jordan for the period 1989-1993. As a rough estimate, the 1993 figures will be considered and we observe the following:

1. An increase in GDP

around 6.7%. Consequently the demand for real money balances should increase by around 5-6%, assuming elasticity of money demand with respect to income of 0.85.

2. An increase in money supply of around 6.7% compared to a target of 8.7%. Given inflation of around 4% per annum, the increase in the supply of real balances is roughly equal to 3% as opposed to an increase in the demand for real balances of around 5-6%.

3. A stable nominal interest rate of around 8-9% per annum compared to world interest rates of around 3-4%. Given inflation rate of around 4% per annum, we get a real interest rate in Jordan amounting to 3-4%.

4. A declining budget deficit as a percentage of GDP.

5. A widely fluctuating balance of payments position especially in the errors and omissions item.

6. A change in the foreign reserves component of the money supply of around (-1.8%) as opposed to a target of (+2.2%) in the adjustment programme.

7. A change in the domestic component of the money supply (domestic credit) of around 8.5% as opposed to a target of 6.5% in the adjustment programme.

The empirical observations above indicate that the excess in domestic credit of around 2% as compared to the target did exert some downward pressure on the exchange rate of the JD. This was accommodated through a decline in the foreign component of the money supply of around 1.8%. Any other downward pressure on the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar and other currencies in the basket seem to have been accommodated partly by the fluctuating errors and omissions item in the balance of payments. More specifically, the central bank used to intervene by buying the JD with foreign currencies as the monetary approach had suggested.

(Continued on page 7)

China reports sharp rise in labour disputes

BEIJING (R) — China, in a rare account of labour discontent, reported Friday a record level of work disputes and said it did not have the laws or trained personnel to cope with the crisis.

In a lengthy report, the official Market News said the number of disputes taken to labour arbitration in 1993 was 12,358, a record and up from 8,150 in 1992.

Worker safety was also reported deteriorating, with authorities reporting nearly 20,000 deaths in 1993 related to work incidents.

The cases arbitrated in 1993 involved 34,794 workers, an increase of 59.8 per cent and included 6,361 cases in state firms, 2,483 in collective firms

and 1,696 in firms with foreign investment, the Market News said.

The disturbances led to work slow-downs and strikes and had "influenced social stability," the newspaper said in a thinly veiled reference to street protests.

Among state firms, the problems were most severe in those that were losing money, forcing them to withhold workers' wages, pensions and medical benefits.

The cuts led to mass protests, it said.

The rise in disputes reflects the change from monopoly state control to more diverse forms of ownership and the weakening of workers' clout as firms gain more independence and

control.

In reforms aiming to restructure the money-losing state sector, China has encouraged the growth of private, joint venture, collective and rural firms by giving them wide powers of autonomy and limiting social welfare obligations.

The 1993 annual report of the labour ministry said that 19,798 people died in work-related incidents in 1993, an 18.5 per cent increase over the previous year.

It said that 2,467 people died in 38,094 fires — not counting forest fires — an increase of 27.4 per cent.

The paper cited the case of a Hong Kong-owned factory in Guangdong where five workers lost hands in industrial acci-

dents but where the owner took no preventive measures.

After two more workers lost hands, the owner abandoned and set up a new plant in another city. He was traced by police, but paid only a small compensation to his injured workers.

At a plant in Shenzhen, workers who stayed longer than 10 minutes in the toilet or left the factory without permission were fined 10 yuan (\$1.15) and beaten by the owner.

The paper said a worker at a Hainan province shoe factory who was beaten and fired by a vice-manager appealed to a local arbitration board for compensation — but was told she was ineligible because she had no written contract.

The paper said the country did not have adequate laws or the personnel to deal with such problems, a crisis compounded by the high turnover of labour arbitration workers.

It called for more comprehensive laws, including a labour law that would set out clearly the rights and obligations of employers and workers.

Meanwhile, experts say that problems of unemployment and low incomes will grow for peasants during the next decade.

"The agricultural sector is confronting tougher challenges than ever before," said experts from the Academy of Social Sciences, State Statistical Bureau and ministry of agriculture in a report.

Their "green paper" urges the government to help the 800 million people who live in the countryside — 70 per cent of the total population.

Last year there were many violent demonstrations by peasants protesting against a drop in living standards, higher local taxes, non-payment for crops and corruption.

China has an estimated 130 million more workers in the countryside than it needs. There has been a massive exodus toward urban centres.

The incomes of Chinese peasants have not risen significantly for a long time, the experts said.



Talal Abu-Ghazaleh International (TAGI)

seeks talented and qualified candidates for its

**Organizational Communication/
Public Relations Department**

The applicant should possess all or most of the following attributes:

- ◆ Proficiency in English
- ◆ Excellent writing skills
- ◆ Editorial experience
- ◆ Computer skills
- ◆ Desktop publishing experience
- ◆ Strong technical and interpersonal skills
- ◆ Thorough knowledge of the communication arts

- ◆ B.A. degree, a minimum requirement
- ◆ Knowledge of Arabic is preferred.

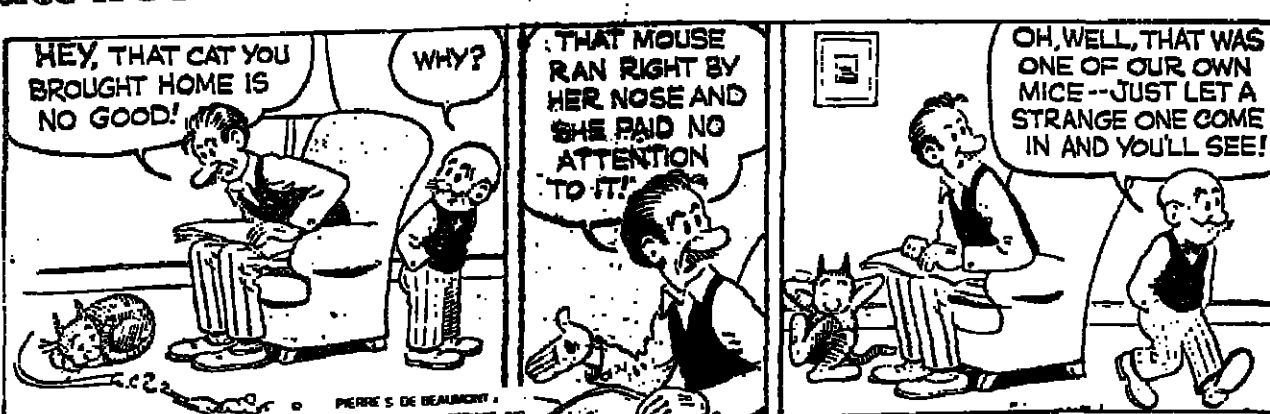
Please send your resume to:
**Talal Abu-Ghazaleh International
Career Planning Department
Amman Commercial Center, Abdali, 8th floor
P.O. Box 921100, Amman, 11192 Jordan**

TAGI is the Middle East Member Firm of
Grant Thornton International

Peanuts



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MAY 7, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Make sure during the morning this Mother's Day that you have worked out any problems that exist with others so that this day works out well and that your future efforts are well coordinated.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Discussing home affairs with kin brings greater understanding now. Show special devotion to the one you love and there will be much appreciation returned.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A good day to get your thoughts and ideas well organized, and to pay attention to your finances which are accurate to any situation.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Make long-range plans that could give you greater abundance in the future. Get a good rest tonight and renew your energies for tomorrow's back to the grindstone.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A good day to make plans for a more satisfying personal life. Show that you are devoted to your family and those around you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Take time to study just where you are headed in your career and personal life and how to get better results in the future for your efforts.

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septem-

ber 22) Know where your friends best fit in your scheme of things and strive to have better rapport with them. Express happiness to your loved ones.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take care of accumulated tasks which you've had little time for lately. Discuss important plans with family members and get their feedback.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Study new channels of operation which can bring you more abundance in the future. Maintain a cheerful manner in everything you strive for.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Take time to engage in civic affairs and gain added prestige. Live according to your true philosophy of conducting your everyday affairs.

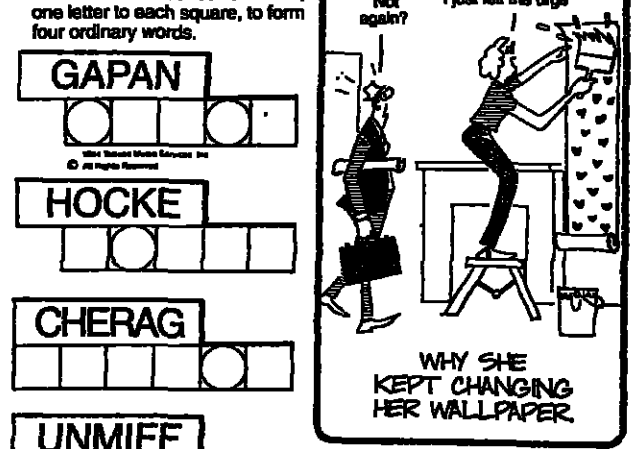
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Show more courtesy toward close ties and come to a better understanding with them. Improve your appearance so others will see you differently.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be careful in what you say to certain family members, and thus avoid a serious misunderstanding upon their part. Be more optimistic.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Take care of routine chores before engaging in amusements you enjoy. Take steps to improve your health. Be logical in any project ahead.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

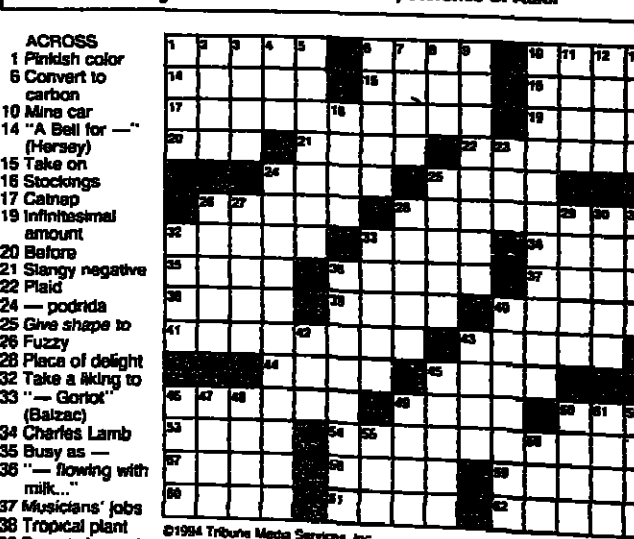


Print answer here: IT WAS A [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] []

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHASM ROUSE NESTLE GRISLY

Answer: What carelessness sometimes leads to — CARELESSNESS

THE Daily Crossword by Florence C. Adler



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|----------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Pinkish color | 17 Convert to carbon | 30 A Bell for | 43 English city | 46 Sharpener | 49 Wise | 50 Physicians' jobs | 53 Italian commune | 54 Novice | 57 Little vessel | 58 Indian | 59 Blood vessel | 60 Hereditary factor | 61 Dips lightly into water | 62 Minimal amount | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DOWN | 1 Bristle | 2 Scant | 3 Uncommon | 4 Livid | 5 Staid | 6 Dinnerware | 7 Slight indication | 8 Sacred chest | 9 Gave back | 10 Intensive | 11 Cause | 12 The Charles' dog | 13 Omery | 14 Cratty | 15 Wing | 16 Infrequently | 18 French river | 19 Rebekah's brother | 20 Not active | 21 Rings | 22 Homer epic | 23 Omens | 24 Theater box | 25 Jail | 26 Kind of shoe | 27 Abundant store | 28 Norse god |

Battles ease in Rwandan capital

KIGALI (R) — Battles eased in Rwanda's capital Saturday amid reports a ceasefire might take place from Sunday to end more than a month of civil war and slaughter.

But mortar exchanges continued and U.N. officials in Kigali said they feared any ceasefire would only provide a short break in the killing estimated to have cost more than 200,000 lives.

U.N. officials said three days of battles between rebels and government troops ended after the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) asked both sides to ensure an end to firing at the airport.

Clashes across the city picked up after the first U.N. plane since the airport was closed Thursday landed but eased again later to sporadic bombardments and small arms fire, they said.

UNAMIR Executive Director Abdul Kaba told Reuters no more planes would land Saturday because of the risk they would be hit despite vows from both sides not to fire on the airport.

"We still want to see if the proposed ceasefire takes hold

at Sunday midnight. We hope the ceasefire will go ahead and there will be a cessation of hostilities even for only a brief period to allow talks between the warring parties," he added.

The rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) said Friday it had signed a ceasefire declaration in Zaire Thursday that would come into effect at midnight Sunday (2200 GMT Sunday).

The RPF representative in Brussels, announcing the signing, said he did not know whether the Rwandan Armed Forces had also signed the ceasefire document in the Zaire town of Gbadolite.

Rwanda's interim government has refused to allow any talks between the RPF and its army commanders — as demanded by the rebels who condemn the rump government as "a clique of killers".

RPF Commander Major-General Paul Kagame told Cable News Network Friday that there was an agreement in principle but more talks were needed before it would come into effect.

Even while the reported agreement was being

announced in Brussels, RPF leaders inside Rwanda were insisting on the need for the rebels to fight on until the massacres were stopped.

The RPF, dominated by the Tutsi minority, thrust to Kigali during an orgy of tribal slaughter unleashed by the death of Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana and his Burundian counterpart in a rocket attack on their plane at Kigali airport on April 6.

U.N. officials said they also had reports that more talks were necessary but said it was unclear whether a truce could be declared from Sunday night before negotiations on a ceasefire.

The officials said they feared that even if the guns fell silent it might only last for a brief period since two rounds of talks to broker ceasefires had failed in Tanzania and separate unilateral ceasefires called by both sides collapsed in hours.

"Rwanda does not inspire much confidence," an official said. "Even if they stop there is no victor in this dead country."

U.N. officials said the RPF had made substantial gains in

its three-day offensive on Kigali, thrusting towards the city centre and bombarding a large army camp at Kanombe near the airport.

"It was not conclusive but the RPF unnerved the military by hitting Kanombe, which is one of the biggest concentrations of well-armed troops and is heavily fortified," said an officer.

Most victims of the worst massacres in generations were Tutsis or Hutu opposition members shot or hacked to death by extremist Hutu militiamen and units of the Hutu-dominated army.

U.N. officials and aid workers say the killings amount to a campaign of genocide but U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has failed to win support for an African force to intervene and powerful Western states have ruled out doing so.

The atrocities and fears among Hutu civilians of reprisals by the advancing RPF forced an estimated 500,000 people to flee Rwanda to neighbouring Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda and Zaire.



This partial view shows the Benako refugee camp in Tanzania at dawn where some 250,000 Rwandans fleeing the ethnic slaughter took refuge (AFP photo)

U.N. loses tank in NATO strike zone

SARAJEVO (R) — U.N. peacekeepers said Saturday they had lost all trace of a Bosnian Serb tank in the weapons exclusion zone around Sarajevo.

The admission came close on the heels of sharp United States criticism of U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi for permitting the Serbs to send tanks across the 20 kilometres radius zone where heavy weapons are supposed to be under threat of NATO air attack.

U.N. sources said four Serb tanks were now at large in the zone established in February to lift the Serb siege of Sarajevo which cost at least 10,000 lives during two years of fighting.

Commander Eric Chaperon, spokesman for the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR), said the latest tank eluded U.N. military observers who were following it Friday after they were prevented from getting close to it by its Serb escort.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government has demanded Mr. Akashi's resignation over his deal to allow the Serbs to reinforce their forces south of Sarajevo with additional armour.

State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly did not go as far but said the U.S. strongly objected to the viola-

tion of the zone and had protested to senior U.N. officials.

"The United States recognises that Mr. Akashi's job is extremely difficult. We don't support calls for his resignation, but we would like to see him do a better job," she added.

The incident has been a political disaster for the U.N. with Mr. Akashi first agreeing to the tank movement in return for the lifting of a Serb blockade of British peacekeepers and then refusing after the deal became public.

When the UNPROFOR commander in Bosnia, General Sir Michael Rose, weighed in and also gave permission to the Serbs, Mr. Akashi countermanded his order.

U.N. spokesmen in Zagreb and Sarajevo have contradicted each other over several days in their official announcements about the location and destination of the tanks.

Mr. Akashi angered U.S. and NATO officials last month when he refused to authorise allied air strikes against Serb forces attacking the Muslim enclave of Gorazde in eastern Bosnia.

The tank episode highlighted confusion within the U.N. and NATO chain of command. NATO Military Commander General George Joulwan vi-

sited Sarajevo Friday "to make sure we are all singing from the same hymn book," a U.N. source reported.

Maj. Chaperon said a convoy taking Gen. Joulwan and Gen. Rose from the airport into the city was fired on with small arms and a rifle grenade but peacekeepers did not know who was responsible. There were no casualties.

Bosnian Serbs defended Mr. Akashi as an "honourable man" and accused the United States of "quasi-imperial global posturing."

Jovan Zametica, a spokesman for Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, said: "Since Mr. Akashi is quite properly insisting on the neutrality of the U.N. the Muslims want him to go."

Bosnian Muslim and Croat leaders, who recently formed a Bosnia Federation and renewed their military alliance against Serbs, were to hold talks in Vienna Saturday.

But talks scheduled for Saturday between Muslim-led forces and the Bosnian Serb army aimed at a local ceasefire in the volatile Brcko area were apparently postponed, a Serb officer told Reuters.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Sarajevo for talks with Bosnian government leaders.

Clinton does not favour force in Haiti

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton said Friday "I do not favour" using force to oust Haiti's repressive military rulers but that it would be irresponsible to rule it out as an option.

Prompted by the United States, the U.N. Security Council voted to tighten economic sanctions to force Haiti's rulers to allow the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"This tightens the noose around the military in Haiti, (which) was perpetrating violence upon their own people," White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers said.

"The international community has decided to side with the United States in efforts to restore democracy and to end the violence in that country," she said.

Having acknowledged that his Haiti policy has failed, Mr. Clinton is reviewing alternatives to restore democracy and deal with refugees who flee their impoverished homeland.

Mr. Clinton's threat of force has drawn strong protests from Republicans in Congress, led by Sen. Bob Dole and Congressman Bob Michel.

Mr. Clinton met with senior advisers Friday, including Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Defence Secretary William Perry, and said he would hold another meeting Saturday.

Asked if the Pentagon has been asked to prepare plans for the use of military force, Mr. Clinton, "I don't want to discuss that. ... I do not favour that option."

"I just don't think we can rule it out," he said, talking

with reporters. "I think it would be irresponsible to rule it out."

He called on Haiti's rulers to abide by an agreement they made — and subsequently ignored — to relinquish power and allow Mr. Aristide's return.

"I think the people down there ought to keep their word," Mr. Clinton said.

Partly because of smuggling, an arms and fuel embargo has failed to unseat Haiti's military rulers.

Stiffening the sanctions, the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved an embargo on almost all trade with Haiti, banning travel by about 600 Haitian supporters of the army's coup, recommending a freeze on assets of officers and banning all but commercial aviation.

Pomp obscures realities at Channel Tunnel opening

CALAIS, France (R) — The flags waved and the bands played but the formal opening of the Channel Tunnel could turn out to be a triumph of pomp over economic reality.

The undersea rail link between Britain and France has not yet started business and the real questions over its future remain to be answered.

Plagued by delays through its six years of construction, it will open only gradually for freight traffic and the public over the next few months.

Speeches by French President Francois Mitterrand and Britain's Queen Elizabeth praising the tunnel project did not stop the business community from closely monitoring the troubled state of its operator's finances.

Shares in Eurotunnel Sa/Plc, whose \$15 billion project has cost twice the original estimate, sagged two per cent Friday on an otherwise quiet Paris bourse.

Shareholders, who will be asked to stump up even more cash in a rights issue later this month, are unlikely to see a dividend on their investment for years.

Analysts say doubts still hang over the tunnel's prospects of attracting enough traffic away from ferries and airlines at sufficiently high prices to make a consistent profit.

The private investors who bore the pain of financing one of the world's most ambitious civil engineering projects did not get a look in at Friday's ceremonies, dominated by the two heads of state.

It was primarily former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, one of the prominent guests, who insisted that the private sector must foot the bill.

Even current prime minister took a back seat Friday, pulling pell-mell into a tour bus at Calais while the two heads of state waved to onlookers from the royal Rolls-Royce.

Seoul mulls more U.N. action against North

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's new unification minister said Saturday further action by the U.N. Security Council would be "unavoidable" unless North Korea by next week lets in international nuclear inspectors for safeguards tests.

"Our government's position is that if North Korea presses ahead with changing fuel rods (of a nuclear reactor at Yongbyon) by themselves, it would be unavoidable for the United Nations Security Council to take additional steps against the North," Unification Minister Lee Hong-Kook told reporters.

After a meeting of security-related ministers, Mr. Lee also said the Security Council should send a team to witness the replacement of spent uranium fuel rods at the reactor but stressed it could only observe the operation.

Pyongyang had invited the agency to send an inspection team to witness the replacement of spent uranium fuel rods at the reactor but stressed it could only observe the operation.

"This deadline is the real

deadline," said Mr. Lee, named deputy premier a week ago and who also holds the unification affairs portfolio.

A Unification Ministry spokesman said the ministers also decided to beef up cooperation with the United States, the United Nations and the Vienna-based IAEA in resolving the long-running dispute over North Korea's suspected nuclear development programme.

The IAEA is at loggerheads with North Korea over Pyongyang's refusal to allow a full inspection of the refuelling of its main five-megawatt reactor at Yongbyon, north of the capital.

Pyongyang had invited the agency to send an inspection team to witness the replacement of spent uranium fuel rods at the reactor but stressed it could only observe the operation.

The agency responded with a list of demands, insisting its inspectors make tests at the reactor to ensure no radioactive fuel had been diverted to make nuclear weapons.

An IAEA spokesman said Friday North Korea sent a reply to the demands but it did not constitute the basis for sending an inspection team to the recalcitrant Stalinist state.

"Therefore the IAEA will not send an inspection team to North Korea."

The IAEA believes the reactor could hold the key to determining whether North Korea has produced a nuclear bomb.

In Washington, U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry said Friday the impasse between North Korea and the IAEA over the North's nuclear programme could soon become "a very dangerous situation."

Sihanouk: New elections could bring peace

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's mercurial King Norodom Sihanouk believes new elections could end the conflict with Khmer Rouge guerrillas but government and international officials were sceptical.

"One or two of the following solutions could be applied to the tragic problem of civil war," King Sihanouk said in a statement released Saturday. "Solution A: New general elections with the participation

of the PKD (Democratic Kampuchea Party), or Khmer Rouge)... after a durable and total ceasefire with a standstill," he said.

King Sihanouk said he was willing to organise and supervise new polls himself.

The second option would be for the rebels to give up the zones they control and join the current government, a proposal King Sihanouk has put forward several times before to

try to obtain a ceasefire and peace talks.

"The PKD will therefore be reintegrated into the national community and join the ranks of our pluralist, liberal democracy," he said.

The Khmer Rouge opted out of the U.N.-organised poll last May despite having signed a peace pact in late 1991. Nearly one year later the coalition government has been unable to subdue the rebels.

Japanese justice minister quits

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's justice minister resigned Saturday after sparking a storm of outrage from neighbouring nations with comments defending Japan's role in World War II. But the damage from the remarks appeared likely to continue.

With red eyes, Justice Minister Shigeto Nagano announced his resignation and apologised at a brief news conference for provoking shock and anger in other Asian nations.

He was in office just 10 days. Hiroshi Nakai, 51, a former deputy secretary-general of the Democratic Socialist Party, who has no previous experience in government, was named as Mr. Nagano's replacement in the cabinet, officials said.

Earlier in the day, Japan's ambassadors in both China and South Korea visited high government officials to try to limit the fallout from the remarks.

Mr. Nagano had said in an interview published Wednesday that Japan was not an aggressor in the war, in which it invaded China and much of

South-East Asia.

He also called the notorious 1937 "rape of Nanking" a fabrication. Chinese historians say about 300,000 people were killed in the city by invading Japanese soldiers.

Mr. Nagano's comments echoed what the Japanese public and soldiers were taught during the war years, and is still the belief of many older conservatives and of the political right-wing.

The remarks seem to have washed away much of the good will gained by previous Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, who apologised forthrightly for World War II and called it a war of aggression.

The new government of Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, which took office late last month, is more deeply conservative.

Mr. Hata returned Saturday from a trip to Europe in which he said Japan was willing to take a more active military role in international peacekeeping. He also called for the legacy of World War II to be put aside by making Japan a permanent

member of the U.N. Security Council.

For years Japan has sought a position of trust and respect in the world community commensurate with its meteoric economic rise. But its reluctance to deal clearly with its wartime role, along with a perennially corrupt political system, has helped undermine those efforts.

The remarks "caused the world to suspect Japan's underlying attitudes," the national Asahi newspaper said Saturday in an editorial.

Noting that it took Japan a half century to arrive at Mr. Hosokawa's frank assessment, the Asahi said that Mr. Nagano's remarks "uprooted all that. It seems he didn't consider how much his remarks would cause a loss of world trust in Japan."

The furor also may have undermined Mr. Hata's already weak minority government. Several Japanese political parties expressed their outrage, including one in the ruling coalition.

Clinton lawyer denounces harassment lawsuit

WASHINGTON (R) — Denouncing the charge as "tabloid trash," President Bill Clinton's lawyer said Friday Mr. Clinton will vigorously fight a sexual harassment lawsuit the lawyer described as motivated by politics and money.

"The president adamantly denies the vicious and mean-spirited allegations in this complaint," said Robert Bennett, a private attorney hired by Mr. Clinton to defend him against a \$700,000 lawsuit filed Friday in Little Rock by former Arkansas state employee Paula Corbin Jones.

The suit claims that Mr. Clinton tried to pressure her into having sex while he was governor and she was working at a convention at which he was a speaker.

"Quite simply, the incident did not occur," Mr. Bennett said at a news conference in his Washington offices.

"This complaint is tabloid trash with a legal caption on it. It is a serious lawsuit it would not read like a made-for-TV lawsuit."

Mr. Clinton let Mr. Bennett do the talking for him, replying when reporters sought comment at a White House ceremony: "I'm not going to dignify this by commenting on it."

Mr. Bennett, a high-powered Washington lawyer who also represents Democratic Illinois congressman Dan Rostenkowski, the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, in a criminal corruption investigation,



Paula Corbin Jones

assaulted Ms. Jones's motives and suggested Mr. Clinton's political enemies had prodded her.

"This is a tale which has been reproduced under the guise of a lawsuit," said Mr. Bennett. "It has been shopped around for months to political enemies of the president."

Using phrases often Clinton partisans including Hillary Rodham Clinton have used in defending him from prior charges of sexual misconduct in his days as Arkansas governor, Mr. Bennett said the suit represented "the politics of destruction" and "is really about trying to rewrite the (1992) election results."

"We are sorry of course, that this trash was filed," said Mr. Bennett, who insisted, "the president has no recollection of ever meeting this

woman."

Ms. Jones, 29, claims in the lawsuit that on May 8, 1991, she was working for the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission at a trade fair when she said a state trooper brought her an invitation to visit Mr. Clinton in a hotel room in Little Rock.

She alleges that Mr. Clinton fondled her and attempted to engage her in sexual acts, at one point lowering his trousers and exposing himself. She said she rebuffed him and left.

Also named as a defendant in the lawsuit was Danny Ferguson, who was one of Mr. Clinton's Arkansas State Police bodyguards. Ms. Jones said Mr. Ferguson acted as Mr. Clinton's go-between.

The suit claims Mr. Ferguson also approached her at work to suggest liaisons with Mr. Clinton on two later occasions.

"We absolutely deny... that this incident occurred," Mr. Bennett said. "This president did not engage in any inappropriate or sexual conduct with this woman."

"This is about money and publicity," charged Mr. Bennett, who scoffed at a statement by one of Ms. Jones' lawyers that she will donate any money received from the lawsuit to charity.

"Will she give to charity what she gets from radio shows and TV appearances and book contracts and the anticipated made-for-TV movie?" he asked.

Cruise missiles becoming serious proliferation issue

LONDON (AP) — Nine nations have cruise missiles, four others are developing them, and 11 countries including North Korea have programmes that could lead to cruise missile production, Jane's Defence Weekly reported Thursday.

"The cruise missile will become a serious proliferation issue over the next 10 years," said author Duncan Lennox, editor of Jane's Strategic Weapon Systems.

The first cruise missile appeared in World War II — Germany's V-1 "buzz bombs" that rained down on southeast England almost 50 years ago. In the Gulf War, Tomahawk cruise missiles — launched from U.S. ships and flying radar range at about 550 mph (880 kph) — were seen turning corners to reach targets in Baghdad.

Cruise missiles are 10 times more accurate than longer-range ballistic missiles because they are guided right to their targets. A ballistic missile spends the last quarter of its

flight in free-fall, guided only by gravity.

Cruise missiles are also much smaller and more versatile than ballistic missiles. They can be launched from vehicles, silos, small ships, submarines and aircraft. And they are much cheaper, Mr. Lennox said.

Any country wishing to have a cruise missile capability needs only the technology needed to build light aircraft, he said.

Paul Beaver, spokesman for Jane's Information Group, said cruise missiles are now the fourth major global security concern after ballistic missiles, chemical weapons and nuclear bombs.

"But by the end of the decade, cruise missiles could become the principal threat to the security of the West," he said.

"At the moment, ballistic missiles remain the primary threat... because they are widespread, and you need them to launch chemical and

nuclear weapons."

Unlike nuclear weapons, "cruise missiles require few, if any, strategic materials," Mr. Beaver said. This makes it hard for world bodies like the United Nations to monitor international traffic and possible missile production.

Mr. Lennox said these nine nations have cruise missiles in service: The United States, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Angola, Bulgaria, Serbia and Syria.

Iran, Iraq, China and India have well-advanced programmes to develop cruise missiles, and Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, North Korea, Sweden, Taiwan and Britain could develop cruise missiles from existing military programmes he said.

The United States and Russia are also working on new cruise missile projects.

"A few countries have the technology to build them but almost every country has the funds to acquire them," Mr. Beaver said.

"You can buy a Chinese Silkorm missile pre-packed in a ready-to-use container, and all you need is another container with the launch equipment and two experts, and you can attack any target within 200 miles (320 kilometres)," he said.

Mr. Lennox said any cruise missile maker that wants to improve a system's accuracy to less than 100 metres needs only to visit an electronics superstore in Japan, where a satellite navigation receiver costs about \$5,000. There is no restriction on the sale of these systems in the West.

Small turbojet engines, which could power a cruise missile, are widely available, he said.

"The net result is that in the late 1990s the cruise missile will have a similar warhead size, delivered over a similar range more accurately, and at about 10 per cent to 25 per cent of the total cost of an equivalent ballistic missile," Mr. Lennox said.

Ukrainian firms sue over film piracy

KIEV (R) — Two Ukrainian film companies have sued television channels for screening pirated video films, the first known case in a country flooded by bootleg versions of Hollywood blockbusters, soft pornography and karate classics. The daily Nezavisimost reported Friday that court cases had been launched against television stations in Kiev and the Crimea peninsula, alleging they had shown films for which the film companies had legally acquired broadcast rights. "Everyone pirates films here, even Ukrainian state television," said Volodymyr Ivanenko, head of the Tonis Television Company, one of three facing a lawsuit. He said his firm had regularly paid rights for three years. Copyright laws are openly flouted in Ukraine. At least five television stations in Kiev alone regularly show pirated films, evading fees of \$2,000 to \$5,000 apiece. Warnings urging viewers to denounce illegal screenings of films across the bottom of newly-released films. "Over the past six months the situation has changed," Nezavisimost said. "Even in our country people with rights to show foreign films are cropping up." The government has taken action against film piracy, at least on paper. Last month, parliament passed a copyright protection law for television, promising fines for illegally shown films.

Rare surgery reattaches woman's scalp

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Doctors combined microsurgery and leeches to reattach the skin and hair of a woman who was scalped from her eyelids to the back of her neck by an industrial blender. The accident at a packaging company threatened to leave 30-year-old Fatsy Bogle disfigured. But doctors who performed the rare operation said Friday she would recover with few or no visible signs of her injury. Ms. Bogle, an employee at Ross Technical Associates of Monrovia, 30 kilometres east of Los Angeles, said she was cleaning the blades of an industrial blender Tuesday when "the machine caught her ponytail. She felt her head smash into the machine. In an instant, her scalp was torn off from her eyelids to the back of her neck, including two-thirds of her right ear. 'I just remember hitting my head,' she told the Los Angeles Times from her hospital bed. 'I yelled at my boss, 'help me, help me.' ... I was afraid I was going to die.' Ms. Bogle would probably have survived, doctors said, but would have needed extensive skin grafts and would never have looked the same. She would have had to wear a wig for the rest of her life. Fortunately, her scalp came off in one piece. Paramedics removed it from the machine and packed it on ice to keep the tissue alive. In a five-hour operation at the University of Southern California Hospital, doctors reattached veins, muscle, cartilage and skin, including the ear. Sterile medicinal leeches were placed on the ear and scalp to suck away blood until veins can heal and begin pumping naturally.

Sinatra, Minelli to sing in Manila

MANILA (R) — American singers Frank Sinatra and Liza Minnelli will give concerts from June 17-20 in Manila, first lady Amelita Ramos said. The wife of President Fidel Ramos told reporters that proceeds would go to her "clean and green" environmental project. Tickets will cost as much as 20,000 pesos (\$740). Sinatra was due to perform in Manila last month but the show was postponed after he collapsed during a performance at Lake Tahoe in California in February.

At China coiffure contest, 'black' is beautiful

BEIJING (R) — China, challenging European standards of blonde beauty, said Saturday it would host a Pan-Asian Hairdressing Contest with the theme of "black hair is beautiful." Event Chairman Zhao Zhenguo said more than 200 stylists from 14 Asian countries would curl, tease and mouse their way toward glory in the 18th Asian Hairdressing and Makeup Contest in Beijing next month. "The theme of the contest is 'black hair is beautiful,'" Mr. Zhao told Xinhua News Agency, adding that it aims to "enhance the skills of hairdressing and use of cosmetics across Asia."

Sports

Amazing fightback saves Everton from the drop

LONDON (AFP) — Graham Stuart saved Everton from relegation from England's top flight for the first time in 40 years, as Oldham and Sheffield United were relegated along with Swindon Saturday.

And Sheffield United were just a minute from relegation on goal difference at the expense of Ipswich when Mark Stein hit Chelsea's winner to beat the Blades 3-2.

In a day of matches which swung dramatically, Everton were 2-0 down and looked certain for the drop.

A Dean Holdsworth penalty and a Gary Albright own goal put Wimbledon ahead at Goodison. But a Graham Stuart penalty, a Barry Horne hit-and-hope, and another by Stuart nine minutes from time saved them.

Oldham had to win at Norwich to stand any chance of staying up, but it ended 1-1. Oldham led through a 14th

Lewis stays unbeaten

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (AFP) — Britain's Lennox Lewis stopped Phil Jackson in the eighth round here Friday night, retaining the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight crown and moving a step closer to a unified title fight.

Lewis downed the fifth-rated WBC contender at 1:35 of the eighth round, advancing his record to 25-0 with 21 knockouts. Jackson fell to 30-2.

Whether Lewis gained the respect he sought from U.S. audiences was uncertain.



WBC champion Lennox Lewis (centre) poses with his championship belt after beating challenger Phil Jackson in their Friday bout in Atlantic City (AFP photo).

Auriol wins Corsica rally after breathtaking finale

AJACCIO (R) — Didier Auriol of France held off a late surge by Spaniard Carlos Sainz to win his fifth Tour of Corsica rallying title after a breathtaking finale Saturday.

Toyota driver Auriol, who started the last day of the World Championship Rally 33 seconds ahead of his rival, saw his lead fade to nine seconds after four of the last eight stages.

But in the fifth section, a crucial, 43-kilometre ride from Vico to Valle di Mezana, Sainz suffered understeering problems after breaking the front anti-roll bar of his Subaru.

Auriol, meanwhile, mastered the narrow, twisting roads of the rally's longest timed stage, shaving 48 seconds off the record he set there two years ago in a Lancia to finish 44 seconds ahead of Sainz in the stage.

Victory was sealed and though Sainz kept pushing in the last three stages, he could not stop Auriol winning by a comfortable 56-second margin.

The two dominated the rally, taking 22 of the 23 timed stages between them.

The victory was particularly sweet for Auriol as it allowed him to steal first place from teammate Juha Kankkunen in the world championship standings.

Italian Andrea Aghini, in a privately-entered Toyota, was never in contention and had to settle for third place two minutes and 11 seconds behind the winner.

Kankkunen, the veteran Finn, could do no better than fourth in a rally in which he has never excelled. He has 45 points after four events compared to Auriol's 47.

On the final day, an inspired Sainz drove almost recklessly on the fast, tarmac roads along the western coastline of the Mediterranean island from Calvi.

The Spaniard, hungry for his first championship win since the 1992 RAC rally, smashed the records on the first four stages to move desperately close to Auriol.

Wilander makes first semi in four years

PINEHURST, N.C. (AP) — Mats Wilander advanced to his first tournament semifinal in four years Friday when Vince Spadea's game collapsed and the Swede went on to a 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 victory in the USTA Clay Court Classic.

Once the No. 1 player in the world, Wilander was last in a semifinal at Napa, Brazil, in 1990, his last tournament victory.

Like Spadea, Wilander came to the Pinehurst resort and country club as a wild-card entry. Had he not made the semifinals, he might have played in a legends event nearby this weekend.

"I think winning three matches, and especially win-

ning a match like this today where I really didn't feel good in the beginning and I wasn't focused ... it feels good to come back and know that I have the guts and whatever to stay with it," he said.

Wilander will meet top-seeded American Todd Martin, the lone survivor from the run of upsets that marked the second round. Martin won a businesslike 6-3, 6-2 decision over Fabrice Santoro of France. Martin and Wilander met last weekend in Atlanta, where Martin won in straight sets in the quarterfinals.

In the other semifinal, Jared Palmer will play Mark Woodford. Both needed second-set tiebreakers to advance.

Martinez on right track at Italian Open

ROME (AP) — Before hardly anyone noticed, Conchita Martinez had raced through the draw and into the Italian Open semifinals with little pain.

The No. 1 seed hasn't dropped a set in her bid to repeat as Italian Open champion and hold off the upset just that bedeviled most of the other seeds.

"I feel really good in this tournament, better than in the others," Martinez said after defeating No. 8 seed Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-4, 6-2, in a quarterfinal match Friday.

The 22-year-old Spaniard won the \$750,000 Clay Court Classic in 1993, one of five tournament titles that year.

Martinez has climbed to No. 3 in the world rankings, but has yet to score a Grand Slam victory.

After the Italian Open, she said she will go directly to France to practice for the French Open, a clay-court Grand Slam event.

"I'm feeling confident on clay. I think I have some chances there," she said.

At Rome, Martinez quickly ousted Hungarian qualifier Andrea Temesvari and then Patricia Tarabini of Argentina in second and third round matches.

"Usually I don't play well at the beginning of a tournament. Playing two easy matches helped me gain confidence," said Martinez.

With only two seeds still in the running and a quarterfinal match that involved two qualifiers, it looks like anyone could win.

In the semifinals, Martinez faces Karina Habsudova of Slovakia and No. 2 Martina Navratilova of the United States meets Irina Spirlea of Romania.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE

Amman Little League baseball results and standings (after games played during week of April 30-May 6, 1994)

COACH PITCH:				
GEMT	Won	Last	Percentage	Games behind
Marriott	2	1	.666	—
Apple	2	2	.500	1 1/2
CCC	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Modern Schools	0	4	.000	2

KID PITCH:				
Aqaba Shipping	2	1	.666	—
Epson	2	1	.666	—
Yellow pages	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Peugeot General	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Plastic	0	2	.000	1 1/2

* 6-6 tie game between Epson and General Plastic on April 22 to be continued

Results of games played last week:

T-Ball:				
Budget 20	Open 15			
Remax 26	Aramex 25			
Aramex 21	Opel 18			

COACH PITCH:

GEMT 15	Modern Schools 6
Apple 14	CCC 7
Marriott 22	Modern Schools 7

KID PITCH:

Epson 6	Yellow pages 5
Peugeot 14	General Plastic 5
Epson 12	Aqaba Shipping Co. 4

Seniors:

Skoda 19	Alphacore 6
Alphacore 14	Skoda 7
Skoda 15	Alphacore 1



The Aramex T-ball team is all smiles as they prepare to congratulate their opponents after a victory.

Beckenbauer steers Bayern to 13th title

BONN (AFP) — Franz Beckenbauer's Bayern Munich won the German football championship Saturday by beating Schalke 2-0 at home.

World Cup captain Lothar Matthaus and Brazilian right back Jorginho settled the issue for Bayern, who had narrowly missed out in the three previous seasons, in a 10 minute second half spell.

They had gone back to the top of the league Tuesday when they trounced Nuremberg 5-0.

They had been forced to replay that match because their 2-1 win over Nuremberg two weeks ago was overturned because slow-motion replays showed the ball did not cross the line for one of their goals.

Beckenbauer, who replaced Erich Ribbeck in the mid-season winter break, had never won the league as a coach although he won four Bundesliga titles and three European Cups with the club as a player from 1969 to 1976.

Bayern finished a point ahead of Kaiserslautern who won 3-1 at Hamburg.

Penske team favourite in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Nigel Mansell, the defending PPG IndyCar series champion, is awarding Penske racing a record 10th Indianapolis 500 victory before the first practice lap has been run at the Indianapolis motor speedway.

Penske's decision to power the cars being driven by defending champion Emerson Fittipaldi, 1992 winner Al Unser Jr., and Paul Tracy with the new 209 cubic-inch (3.4-litre) Mercedes-Benz V8 engine makes their team an overwhelming favourite in the May 29 race, Mansell says.

"Indianapolis is going to be ludicrous," he said in a recent interview, pointing out that the engine developed by Penske's Ilmor Engineering gives it a significant advantage because of added horsepower.

"There's going to be three Ilmor-Mercedes engines that are guaranteed 150-220 more horsepower. We're going there to qualify for the second or third row."

Practice for the race begins Saturday. Time trials to determine the 33-car starting field from an entry list of 107 cars are scheduled May 14-15 and May 21-22.

Fittipaldi and Unser, teammates for the first time, are among six competitors seeking a return trip to victory lane at the famed 4-kilometre oval. The group includes 1969 winner Mario Andretti, who has announced that this will be his final year as a driver. Also entered is four-time champion Al Unser Sr., 1986 winner Bobby Rahal and 1990 champion Arie Luyendyk.

For the first time in nearly four decades, A.J. Foyt's name is missing from the list of drivers. Foyt, the first four-time Indianapolis 500 champion, retired in an emotion-packed moment just before time trials began last May.

PASSPORT LOST

I. Sirajul Islam Chaoudhuzy, announces the loss of my passport in Abdali, Amman. The passport was issued in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on October 10, 1988 and has the number 959382.

If found, please deliver it to the nearest police station.

FLAT FOR RENT

Located in Swifelh, the flat consists of 2 spacious bedrooms, large salon, modern kitchen, 2 bathrooms, and veranda plus a large terrace surrounded by a garden. Part of a newly-built villa with separate water, electricity, and central heating.

Call tel. 815005

PRIZES FOR YOUNG JORDANIAN SCIENTISTS

"Trying Is Winning"

Working towards enhancing scientific manpower in Jordan, prizes for young scientists are now granted for Jordanians by the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in collaboration with the Royal Scientific Society. Submission for these prizes is open till October 1994.

Prizes are awarded every year rotating among three fields of pure science: **biology, mathematics and physics. Young Jordanian scientists are now invited to apply for the TWAS prize** which amounts to \$2,000.

So, if you are a Jordanian, resident in Jordan, and of age not exceeding 40 years, we will be glad to receive your contribution in any of the three fields specified above, taking into consideration that submission is open till October 1994. We are ready to provide you with any additional information about the rules & mechanism of submission.

Interested applicants are kindly requested to contact **Mrs. Majd Khayyat** at the following address:

The TWAS Unit
Royal Scientific Society
P.O.Box 925819
Amman - Jordan
Fax: 844806 — Tel: 844701
Telex: 21276 RAMAH JO

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
TAMMAM HIRSCH
C. Treasure Maps Services, Inc.

BE PREPARED!

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 7 4 3 2
♥ A K 8 4 2
♦ A K 9 8 5
♣ 10 7 5 3

EAST
♠ Q 9 8 5
♥ J 6 4 2
♦ K Q 9 8 5
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ A 6 4 3 2
♥ A 9 8
♦ A 8
♣ 10 6 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣

How many times have we warned you that, if anything can go wrong, Murphy's Law will prevail? The pessimist who prepares for the worst, and is pleasantly surprised by anything else, will go far at bridge. South's rebid of two no trump showed a minimum opening bid and a balanced hand. North's raise to three no trump was automatic, since other options were most

FOR RENT

- Unfurnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, two extra small rooms, balcony with a nice view; 1st floor, with central heating and solar heater. Located in Jabal Luweibdeh. Annual rent is JD 3,500. Possibility to sell furniture for good prices.
 - Office: Five rooms; located in Shmeisani, near ESCWA, with central heating and telephone. Rent is JD 3,600.
 - Car (for sale): Datsun Sunny, 1982, in good condition, price is JD 5,300.
- Please call tel. 695150

FURNISHED APARTMENT BY THE 7TH CIRCLE FOR RENT

Consisting of 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 salons and dining room with independent heating, telephone, luxurious furniture, located near Jaber Centre.

Call tel: 863355

To Suit All Budgets
Available VILLA FOR RENT & LOTS OF FLATS, WITH OR WITHOUT FURNITURE.
PLEASE CALL : JORDAN PROPERTY CONSULTANTS TEL : 829882 / 829883

TO DAY	Cinema	Tel.: 634144	Cinema	Tel.: 699238	Cinema	Tel.: 677420	Cinema	Tel.: 618274 - 618275	Cinema	Tel.: 675571	Nabil & Hisham's	Tel.: 625155
	PHILADELPHIA		PLAZA		CONCORD		AMMOUN THEATRE		Nabil Al Mashini Theatre		AHLAN THEATRE	
	FLATLINERS Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays Tom & Jerry at 11 a.m.		Trouble Bound Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		CONCORD '1' Silence of the Lambs Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' Perfect World Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		The political comedy play FORBIDDEN FORBIDDEN Every night at 8:30 p.m.		Coming soon Abu Awad in: The new comedy play: "A PUNCTURED BAG" Directed by Ghassan Al Mashini		The political comedy play: "WHAT A PEACE!" (Al Salam Ya Salam) At: 8:30 p.m. For reservations please call 625155	

- Dep. Bassam
Art. Azam
Upper/lower price
- MARKET**
- Apple
 - Banana
 - Carrot
 - Cauliflower
 - Cucumbers (large)
 - Cucumbers (small)
 - Eggplant
 - Garlic
 - Green beans
 - Lemon
 - Marrow (large)
 - Marrow (small)
 - Mulukhiyah
 - Orange
 - Onion (dry)
 - Onion (green)
 - Peas
 - Pepper (hot)
 - Pepper (sweet)
 - Potato
 - Tomato
 - String beans
 - Watermelon
 - Vine leaves

Palestinian police unit crosses to Jericho today

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two hundred and seventy Palestinian policemen are expected to enter Jericho from the King Hussein Bridge early Sunday, a senior Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) official said Saturday.

Brigadier Mohammad Qudsi, head of the Bader Brigade of the PLA, is expected to lead the unit of former PLA fighters now known as the Palestine National Security Force (PNSF).

The PNSF members entering Jericho from Jordan are expected to be the first Palestinian unit to enter Palestinian areas to come under autonomy. The entry of Palestinian police units from Egypt into Gaza which was to occur simultaneously has been delayed, the senior PLA official said.

The PNSF unit will not carry their guns with them but the weapons will be transported in wooden cartons and will be handed over to the force in Jericho.

The former PLA units were awaiting their Norwegian-made police uniforms which were being trucked to the PLA training camp at Khaw, north of Amman, via Nuweiba, Egypt, at press time.

Three thousand World War II uniforms have been donated to the police force by Norway. One police colonel called the donation of the used uniforms an "insult."

He said if the Norwegian uniforms did not arrive on time, the unit would wear its khaki coloured PLA uniforms.

"Only the name would be removed," said the colonel, who asked to remain anonymous.

All policemen scheduled to enter Jericho Sunday were easily identifiable because they had the PLA label removed from their uniforms by night-time.

The blue Norwegian-donated police uniforms will be labelled with the PNSF sign and name.

Previous announcements by the Palestine Liberation Organisation office in Amman had

said that about 500 members of the Iraq-based Al Aqsa Brigades of the PLA would be the first to enter Jericho from Jordan.

Last minute talks between His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Thursday changed these plans, PLA officials said, without elaboration.

The members of the Bader Brigades entering Jericho on Sunday are all known Arafat loyalists and have fought by his side in at least one of the many battles the PLO fought during its 30-year existence as a liberation movement.

The Al Aqsa Brigades are expected to arrive in Amman at approximately 5:00 a.m., a high-ranking PLA officer told the Jordan Times at the PLA headquarters in Jabal Hussein. They will camp at the Pilgrim Station near the bridge for one to three days before entering Jericho.

The Al Aqsa police unit is composed of 522 of the brigades' 900 members. "The 522 names were approved by Israel, the rest were not," one senior member of the PLA said. All names of Palestinian policemen entering Gaza or Jericho have to be approved by the Israelis.

The total number of PLA members based outside the occupied territories expected to serve in the PNSF are 7,000. Another 2,000 policemen from inside the occupied territories will boost the total number of the force to 9,000, a number agreed on during the PLO-Israeli negotiations.

PLA forces based in Yemen, close to 900, are stuck there because of the outbreak of a civil war there. There are 1,250 in Egypt awaiting to enter Gaza. Another 800 are based in Libya, 200 in Sudan, 200 in Algeria and 200 in Jordan.

Agencies said: Hundreds of Palestinian policemen left a Cairo military camp Saturday for the Gaza border in a convoy led by two trucks sporting pictures of Mr. Arafat and Palestinian flags.

Many of the 330 men in 19 trucks waved small versions of

the red, black, white and green banner.

The 330 planned to spend at least one night in a camp at Rafah on the Egyptian side of the border before entering Gaza.

As the convoy formed in 'Ain Jalut camp, north of Cairo, a 45-Palestinian honour guard stood in formation, awaiting the order to climb into the lead trucks.

The camp was named for a 13th-century battle in what was then Palestine, when Egyptian troops beat back Mongols threatening to destroy Islam.

Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said the whole 9,000-strong police force would have completed its deployment in the Gaza Strip and Jericho within a week. "We will be able to meet the initial date that we fixed and that is in one week," he said.

Mr. Arafat himself will arrive in the self-rule territories after the police have been deployed, according to a PLO representative in Cairo, Zohdi Al Oudra.

Dr. Shaath said Palestinian police stationed in Yemen and Libya were having to travel partly overland to reach their assembly point at Rafah.

Saudi airplanes had been due to fly out the Yemen-based police but since the main airports of Sanaa and Aden had been closed in the civil war, they were travelling by bus to the Saudi border.

They will meet up in Cairo with Libya-based police, also forced to travel overland to the Egyptian border because of a U.N. air embargo on Libya.

Saudi planes are to fly in policemen from Algeria. General Ziad Al Atrash, who is already in Gaza to prepare for the police deployment, said Friday about 1,000 policemen were to arrive in Gaza on Sunday and 750 others in Jericho.

The force, composed of 7,000 men from abroad and 2,000 from the Israeli-occupied territories, will be commanded by Nassir Yousef, who said earlier the police would complete its deployment in two weeks.



VISIT TO LONDON: Their Royal Highnesses by His Majesty King Hussein, Her Majesty Queen Noor, Royal Family members, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majal, senior officials and the British ambassador to Jordan (Petra)

Mideast peace group studies Gaza port

PARIS (R) — The feasibility of Gaza becoming the first Palestinian port will be studied under a survey launched by a Middle East peace process working group, officials said on Friday.

The working group also said it had set up several subgroups to study in detail the region's other transportation needs for a future era of relaxed borders between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

A sum of \$60 million has been designated to conduct the necessary studies leading to construction of a port for Gaza, Palestinian delegate Samih Al Abed told a news conference.

The study would determine the desired capacity and design of the port, he said, adding that "all the parties agreed to give the Palestinians the assistance they need to set up a port and to help with the necessary training."

Working group representatives met with reporters at the close of a four-day meeting to study transportation systems and routes needed to move goods and people throughout the region, and how to set up these systems through regional cooperation.

"The main point was the agreement to set up a system of coordination and working groups in which all the countries of the region can collaborate on regional transportation needs," said Israeli delegation head Pinhas Ben-Shaul.

As for a port for Gaza, "it's a dream of the Palestinians. It's what they want to do. We have no reason not to support it," Mr. Ben-Shaul told Reuters after the news conference.

Participants in the working group meeting, in addition to the Palestinians and Israel, included Belgium, Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Morocco, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Tunisia and the United States.

Jordan hopes for strong relations with S. Africa

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan hopes to establish very strong ties with South Africa, a country with special political and economic weight in the African continent, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan said Saturday.

"We hope to build close ties between South Africa and Jordan, which enjoy a strategic location in the heart of the Arab World with great potential to ensure stability and security in the region," the minister said.

Mr. Hassan's comments followed an announcement that an official Jordanian delegation led by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ben Zeid will attend the inauguration of Nelson Mandela as president, following the African National Congress (ANC) victory in South Africa's first multi-racial election.

Mr. Hassan, who will be a member of the delegation, said the changes in the African nation "ran parallel to the drastic changes in the Middle East region."

"These developments reaffirm the fact that the whole world is moving towards balanced situation to achieve justice and peace in the Middle East," Mr. Hassan said.

In a statement to Jordan

Television, Mr. Hassan said that South Africa "is now witnessing the breaking of a new dawn ending an era of apartheid and racial discrimination, thanks to the political will of the African people and their leaders."

"The elections were free and fair and reflected the will of the South African people and their aspirations towards progress and peace," he added.

Voicing Jordan's warm welcome of the turn of events in South Africa, the minister wished the South African leaders success in their task.

Noting that a high-level Jordanian delegation led by Senate Speaker Ahmad Lawzi visited South Africa in January, the minister said that the visit "constituted the first qualitative step towards cementing bilateral relations based on mutual respect."

South Africa and Jordan decided to establish diplomatic relations in November 1993.

The South African charge d'affaires to Jordan, Anthony Greenham, on Thursday raised the South African flag at the temporary embassy offices at the Forte Grand Hotel.

Preparations are underway to open a Jordanian embassy in Pretoria.

China urges U.N. to reduce Iraq sanctions

BEIJING (Agencies) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said Saturday the United Nations should gradually reduce its sanctions against Iraq out of humanitarian considerations.

The official Xinhua news agency said Mr. Qian spoke in a meeting with a special envoy of the Iraqi government, Riyadh Sami Al Qaysi, Xinhua quoted Mr. Qian as expressing sympathy for the "difficult situation of the Iraqi people."

It is not the first time China has pressed for a reduction in the U.N. sanctions, imposed in 1990 as punishment for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The sanctions ban most trade with Iraq,

depriving it of much-needed oil revenue.

At a U.N. Security Council meeting in March, China joined France and Russia in urging the council to issue a statement acknowledging Iraq's progress in dismantling its weapons of mass destruction and meeting other U.N. demands. However, other council members led by the United States refused and left the sanctions in place.

China "maintains that the problems should be settled through dialogue and discussion by the parties concerned in order to recover peace and

(Continued on page 5)

Damascus maintains opposition to multilaterals

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria has told Japan's Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa it is committed to continuing bilateral peace negotiations with Israel but will not take part in multilateral talks on regional cooperation.

A Japanese government spokesman said on Saturday Mr. Kakizawa, whose country is involved in the talks concerning environment and water, raised the issue during a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa in Damascus on Friday.

"We expressed a wish that Syria joins the multilateral talks which we believe would facilitate the peace process in the region," the spokesman said.

"Mr. Sharaa told us that he believed the multilateral talks could not achieve their purpose if a comprehensive peace settlement was not reached between Israel and its Arab neighbours," he said.

Syria, involved in peace talks with Israel within the framework of the Middle East peace conference which opened in Madrid in 1991 and continued in Washington, is boycotting the related multilateral talks. It says it will join only when progress is made in the bilateral negotiations.

Damascus is also leading Arab opposition to ending the trade boycott of Israel, the Arab lands it occupies.

Diplomats said the boycott issue was also raised by the Japanese minister and that there seemed to be no change in Syria's attitude.

The spokesman said the Japan-Syria talks also dealt with the nomination of Japan to become one of the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and that Syria voiced support for the idea. The council's present permanent members are the United States, Russia, France, Britain and China.

Mr. Kakizawa, concluding a regional tour which took him to Egypt, Israel and Jordan, discussed the Middle East peace process and ways of boosting economic cooperation in talks with President Hafez Al Assad, the spokesman said.

He said Japan which extended loans totalling more than \$648 million in 1993 had agreed to contribute in financing more development projects in Syria and that a technical team was discussing the amount of money needed by Syria.

In a departure statement, Mr. Kakizawa told reporters his visit to Damascus was successful and he expressed his country's readiness "to cooperate and positively contribute to the peace process."

Japanese embassy sources said the Japanese minister was pushing for lifting the Arab economic boycott of Israel.

In 1992, the last year for which figures are available, Japanese exports to Syria reached \$302 million — mainly audio-visual equipment, machinery, laboratory gear and television studio equipment.

Ms. Khader said she tried to pressure the independents, Dr. Sweiss in particular, to run for the elections but they refused.

"They acted hastily in a moment of anger which is not in favour of defending the cause of human rights," Ms. Khader said. "I admit that the manner in which the session was administered was incorrect but I believe that we should fight from within."

Yasser Abu Hilaieh, an AOHHR member and the managing editor of the Islamist weekly Al Sabeel newspaper, also said that it was a mistake to withdraw pointing out that the outcome would have changed if all 260 members of the general assembly were present.

Dr. Sweiss, however, maintains that his victory would have made a difference. He told the Jordan Times that he proposed a plan of action for the AOHHR as a condition for his nomination but that it was refused.

"I will continue to work for the human rights issue. AOHHR is not the only forum for enhancing human rights," said Dr. Sweiss, who is currently hosting a weekly programme on Jordan Radio on human rights and is the editor of the weekly page on human rights in the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab.

COLUMN

Bobbitt arrested after fiancée alleges abuse

LAS VEGAS (R) — John Wayne Bobbitt, the ex-Marine whose penis was severed by his wife last year, was arrested Friday on charges of beating his fiancée, a former topless dancer. Mr. Bobbitt was apparently drunk when he was taken into custody before dawn on misdemeanor charges of battery and domestic violence after Kristina Elliott summoned police and alleged he had grabbed her and shoved her into a wall, police said. Mr. Bobbitt, 26, whose estranged wife, Lorena, had claimed that his repeated abuse had driven her to mutilate him with a kitchen knife, pleaded innocent and was released on \$7,100 bail. Police said the incident started with a "disagreement" between Mr. Bobbitt and Ms. Elliott, 21, who was working as a topless dancer when Mr. Bobbitt met her in February during a promotional tour to raise money for his legal and medical bills. He "resorted to physical violence against her," causing at least two bruises, and punched holes in the door, according to a police report. Mr. Bobbitt was arrested when he returned to Ms. Elliott's apartment, where he had apparently been living in recent months since announcing their engagement.

Contemporary art market seen in the dumps

NEW YORK (R) — One major victim of the recession — the art auction market — has so far not shown the signs of recovery anxious sellers have been hoping for as they try to peddle their Jasper Johns and Andy Warhol paintings. Disappointing sales marked the beginning of the spring art auctions this week, causing nervous dealers and consultants to replace "price" with "quality" as the most important term in their lexicon. Despite high hopes before the sales at the auction rooms at Christie's and Sotheby's, buying was slower than many in the art had hoped, and both houses reported sales far below estimates during this week's contemporary art sales. Christie's, whose auction of 76 works kicked off the season, took in only \$12.5 million Tuesday evening, \$7 million less than its \$19 million to \$25 million pre-sale estimate. In addition, 58 per cent of the works — an unusually low number, according to many experts — was sold that evening. The rest failed to reach the undisclosed "reserve" prices set on an item by the seller. Christie's highest price Tuesday evening was for a Jackson Pollock drip painting. Estimated at \$2 million to \$3 million it sold for \$1.76 million to a Boston-based investor. The somewhat inauspicious start added to the tension Wednesday evening at Sotheby's, where an auction of 63 works, including a Jasper Johns painting estimated at \$8 million, was perceived by many dealers and investors as being the ultimate test of the market's overall health. But while faring better than Christie's earning \$20.4 million, Sotheby's nevertheless fell short of its \$31 million to \$42 million estimate.

Bogota police discover 52 child prostitutes

BOGOTA (AFP) — Police discovered 52 girls between the ages of 10 and 12 working as prostitutes arrested several people on charge of pimping, officials said. Some of the girls said they were willing participants in prostitution and an investigation was underway to determine if others had been forced into the trade by pimps or family members, said General Luis Enrique Montenegro. He said most of the girls were under the influence of drugs when they were found by police in Bogota. They were in the custody of Municipal Family Service officials.

China opens VD control centre

BEIJING (AFP) — China's first National Control Centre for Venereal Diseases (VD) and leprosy was inaugurated in Nanjing, eastern China, Xinhua News Agency reported Saturday. The government said sexually transmitted diseases and leprosy had almost been eradicated after China became a Communist state in 1949 but there had been a dramatic resurgence since the early 1980s.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arafat, Weizman may meet in S. Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — South African President-elect Nelson Mandela said on Saturday he hoped Israeli President Ezer Weizman and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat would meet at his inauguration next week. Mr. Mandela, addressing members of the Jewish community at a Cape Town synagogue, paid tribute to last week's agreement between the PLO and Israel which opened the way for September's historic self-rule deal to be implemented. "I hope Chairman Arafat and President Weizman can meet here next week," he said. African National Congress spokesman Carl Niehaus told Reuters later that the meeting was confirmed.

Belgrade ban Zhirinovskiy rally

BELGRADE (R) — Police have banned a rally to be attended in Belgrade by Russian nationalist politician Vladimir Zhirinovskiy but its organisers said on Saturday it would go ahead. The Serbian National Renewal (SNO) movement said police refused permission for the gathering in a main square in the city centre on Monday for security reasons. "We consider this to be a political ban... we shall hold the meeting as planned," SNO leader Zoran Atanasovskiy told a news conference.

Bar-Lev dead at 70

TEL AVIV (AP) — Haim Bar-Lev, Israel's ambassador to Russia and a former chief of staff of the armed forces, died Saturday in Tel Aviv after an undisclosed illness. He was 70. Last week, Bar-Lev had accompanied Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin during his four-day visit to Russia, the first by an Israeli prime minister. Later in the week, Bar-Lev returned to Israel and checked into Tel Aviv's Hashomer hospital. Bar-Lev was named chief of staff after the 1967 Middle East war, and was responsible for building a string of fortifications along the Suez Canal known as the Bar-Lev Line. Bar-Lev grew up in Yugoslavia and immigrated to Palestine at age 15.

Kabul frees woman journalist

KABUL (R) — Afghan authorities on Saturday freed a Russian-born U.S. journalist captured a week ago for allegedly entering Afghanistan from Tajikistan. Freelance Maria Korolov, 24, was handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kabul, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters. Ms. Korolov later said she had been treated well by the fighters of President Burhanuddin Rabbani's Jamiat-e-Islami who arrested her on May 1 on the northern Afghan province of Kunduz.

Bomb blasts in Istanbul

ISTANBUL (AP) — Three bomb blasts within an hour rocked the heart of Istanbul's tourist district on Saturday, wounding a Turkish man. The attacks appeared to be part of a campaign against tourism, one of Turkey's biggest industries, police said. A wing of the separatist Kurdish guerrilla group PKK claimed responsibility for two of the attacks in an anonymous telephone call to Kurd-A news agency based in Germany.

Japan to reopen Lebanon embassy

DAMASCUS (R) — Japan will reopen its embassy in Lebanon, closed for eight years, now that the civil war is over, a Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Saturday. The spokesman, accompanying Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa who was visiting Damascus, said the decision was taken as a result of improved security in Lebanon. He said the decision had immediate effect and that a technical team was heading to Beirut to prepare for the reopening of the mission.

Brotherhood slams PLO-Israel deal

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood fundamentalist group slammed the self-rule accord signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and said on Saturday the PLO had made itself a tool of Zionist command. The group, which also condemned the Camp David peace treaty signed by Egypt and Israel in 1979, said the PLO was pushed into signing the deal granting Palestinians limited self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho. "The Gaza-Jericho agreement was signed in an air of falsity and under clear pressure... it is clear to everyone with eyes that the Palestine Liberation Organisation has extended all the concessions asked of until the last moment before the signing," said a statement by the group. "The PLO gave in to Zionist demands and tied itself with the Zionist entity and this is satisfied to be a tool for Zionist command not only in Palestine, but all the Arab and Muslim region," it added.

Stolen 'Scream' recovered

OSLO (AP) — Norway's most famous painting, "The Scream" by Edvard Munch, has been recovered almost four months after it was stolen from an Oslo museum, police said Saturday. Ellen Holager Andersen of the Oslo police said the painting was apparently not damaged. The painting was recovered at an Oslo hotel. Police arrested three people, the national news agency NTB reported. Edvard Munch's 1893 painting of a wall-like figure on a bridge, apparently screaming, was stolen from the national art museum in a break-in on Feb. 12, the opening day of the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer.

Canadian nurses held in Riyadh

RIYADH (AP) — The Canadian embassy on Saturday was preparing a formal protest to the authorities after religious police detained six Canadian nurses as they left dinner party and jailed them for two nights. A spokesman for the embassy, who could not be named under embassy rules, would not give the six women's names or hometowns. He said the nurses were seized from cars along with other Westerners as they were driving away after dinner at an Arab friend's home last Monday night. They were held for two nights at the women's prison in Riyadh. "The six Canadians were mistreated and the embassy will be entering a formal protest," said the spokesman. "We will be requesting clarification, which we have not received at this point." The six were released from jail after action by the Canadian consulate, the spokesman said.

Members challenge AOHHR elections

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Some members of the Jordanian branch of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights (AOHHR) said Saturday they intend to contest in court the outcome of Friday's elections to the organisation's administrative committee.

"The election was not only undemocratic but also illegal," one of the members told the Jordan Times. "We think of taking the case to court."

Friday's elections were held amid heated clashes and fights. Security forces had to intervene to smooth over differences among AOHHR members. A proposal by one member that an item on membership be added to the agenda of the meeting led to disputes among the 140 members present, witnesses said.

Baathists and members of the National Action Front (NAF) and the Islamic Action Front (IAF) exchanged accusations for an hour before the security men intervened to calm things down.

Out of the 140 members present, 65 seconded the proposal to include the membership issue on the agenda leading to another clash. Shortly afterwards, IAF member Zuhair Abul Ragheb announced the withdrawal of the IAF and the NAF from the elections.

Another clash between a Baathist and an Islamist led to the intervention of the representative of the Ministry of Interior, who called off the meeting and ordered participants to leave the hall.

When balloting started later, the ministry official was absent, according to some witnesses.

Others say that the representative returned after a while and attended the meeting. "What happened was ridiculous... they can't tell us to leave (the hall) and then hold elections," said AOHHR member Sulaikha Abu Rishah, a prominent woman activist and columnist.

Eight members of the previous administrative committee were reelected on Friday. Husni Ayesh, a senator, and Suleiman Sweiss did not run. Dr. Sweiss said he decided not to nominate himself in protest against what he described as the poor performance of the administrative committee during Friday's elections.

He said he was pressured by parties and independents to run for the elections but he did not want to stand as a "perjurer."

Dr. Sweiss, a prominent human rights activist, said that participating in an administrative committee controlled by leaders of political parties

could never benefit the human rights cause.

"I almost succumbed to the pressure... but in the end I decided not to take part in this charade," Dr. Sweiss said. "Most of those elected assume leading posts at political parties and have not realised tangible achievements in the field rights."

"Those elected have nothing to do with human rights," contended AOHHR member Mohammad Masharqa. "It was a battle among parties to take over the organisation."

Those elected to the administrative committee include two Baathists, Raja'i Naffa and Omar Abul Ragheb, and Amin Shuqair, who is considered as close to the Baathist party, Salem Nahhas, a member of the political bureau of the Jordan People's Democratic party, banker Fakhr Bilbeisi, Khaled Tarawneh, a former senator and former chief of the Civil Defence Department, lawyer Hani Dahleh, a founding member of the NAF, and independents Asma Khader, Abdul Jabbar Abu Gharbieh and Walid Marqaa.

"I'm very dismayed by what happened on Friday," said Ms. Khader. "If the other independents hadn't withdrawn their nominations the shape of the committee would have been different."